

# ILLUSTRATED TIMES

REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

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No. 713.—VOL. XIII.

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1868.

PRICE 3D.—STAMPED 4D.

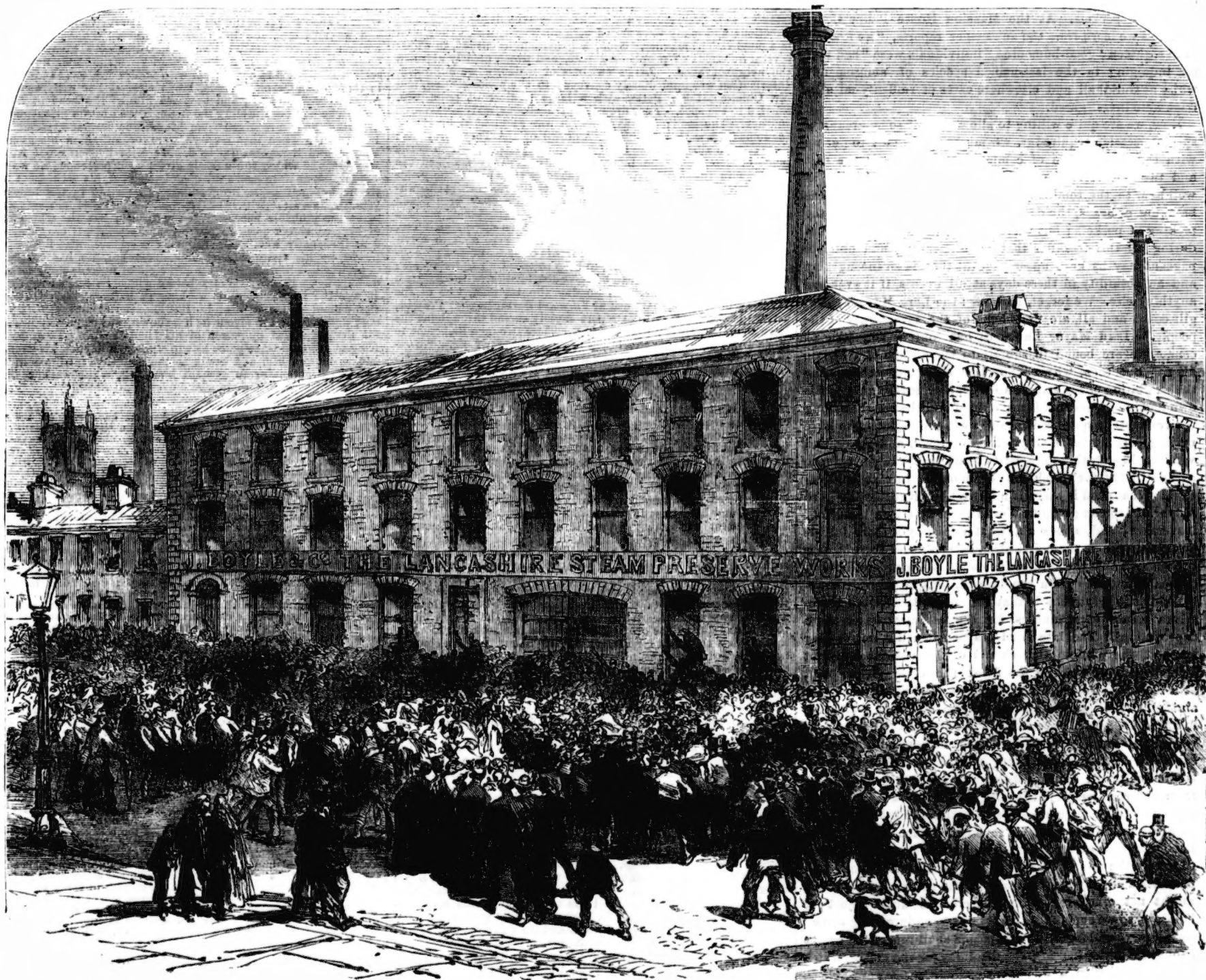
## THE THIEVES' NOVEMBER SATURNALIA.

NOVEMBER is a notable month, seeing that during the first ten days thereof two opportunities for holding high carnival are afforded to the roughs, thieves, and—well—imbeciles, of London. Guy Fawkes Day falls on the 5th and Lord Mayor's Day on the 9th of November, and it would be difficult, perhaps, to decide on which the peaceful inhabitants of the metropolis are most exposed to the attacks of the "lawless classes," and the police most signally display their inability to perform the duties in regard to protecting the public which are expected of them. For hours on the evening of the 5th inst. the roughs and thieves had it all their own way in various quarters of London, without let or hindrance from the "active officers" over whom Sir Richard Mayne holds command. But few depredators were apprehended, it is true; but that is easily understood when we learn that the police had too much regard for their own safety to make the attempt. Primrose-hill, it seems, was a favourite spot for the exertions of the rough and robber class in celebrating the "never-to-be-forgot" anniversary after their peculiar fashion. Some half-dozen correspondents of the daily

papers have detailed their woes and sufferings on that eventful evening on Primrose-hill and in its vicinity. Of these persons, and others in similar plight, it may perhaps be said they must belong to the imbecile order of mankind, or they would have kept away from the haunts of the rogues, roughs, and thieves. There is some truth in that; but even imbeciles, if peaceful, are entitled to protection; and one gentleman, at least, whether imbecile or not, was denied that boon by the police when he applied for it. He says that, after having been hustled, robbed, and maltreated, he went to the nearest police station, stated his case, and requested aid in apprehending the robbers, and, if possible, recovering his property. At first he was pooh-poohed by the Dogberry in attendance; but being a persistent fellow—imbeciles who run their heads into danger unnecessarily are apt to be persistent, you know—he succeeded, at length, in inducing Mr. Superintendent to detach one doughty—but reluctant—constable to aid in coping with a mob of some twenty or thirty roughs. The victim further tells us that he was informed that at the time when this powerful phalanx of one was placed at his service, there were from fifty to a hundred men "in reserve" at the station, who, of

course, were kept in reserve there, notwithstanding that assault and robbery were known to be going on in the immediate vicinity. But, be this as it may, the sufferer and his protector proceeded to Primrose-hill—that is, they went towards it; but, encountering two other constables on the way, the one-man battalion made inquiries as to the state of affairs in front, and, on being informed that "rioting was going on, the hill was in possession of the roughs, and it was not safe to go near them," all the three constables beat a retreat and were no more seen by the roughs' victim who had, in a moment of misplaced confidence, besought their aid.

We do not vouch for the truth of this statement; we merely give it in substance as we find it in the daily journals, and, so far as we have seen, it has neither been questioned nor contradicted. But, if it be true, what a picture it exhibits of the "efficiency of the police!" Here are gangs of roughs exercising their will upon the lieges in a place of public resort; the police on duty there flee the spot as unsafe, while a posse of half a hundred men are allowed to skulk in a neighbouring station! Last year we were told that the metropolitan police were too few in number for



THE ELECTION RIOTS AT BLACKBURN; SCENE AT MR. BOYLE'S WORKS, SIMMONS STREET.



the due performance of the work required of them, and authority was given to increase the strength of the force by a thousand men. We presume that authority has been exercised, and, if so, surely the public might look for a little more effective protection; but, so far as appears, it has not been rendered. Burglary, street robbery, crime of all sorts, are as rampant as ever, and a policeman, when he is required, still as difficult to find as before. In fact, Sir Richard Mayne has succeeded, apparently, in drilling his men into utter inefficiency. They can march out and "tell off by the right" in a tolerable, if somewhat clumsy, imitation of military style; but they can neither prevent crime nor—except in rare instances—catch criminals. Their energies are exhausted by the arduous drill they have to undergo, and the equally arduous task of watching public-house doors—when they are not well paid for winking hard, that is—and in capturing the hoops of audacious urchins who dare to "have a bowl" in suburban thoroughfares. But that, surely, is not all the public have a right to expect from a force to whom they are entitled to look for protection to their persons, their property, and their homes; and as nothing can be had from the present organisation of the police under Sir Richard Mayne, it is high time that they should have a new commander and a new system of action. Things have come to a pretty pass when a "voluntary police" must be organised in several of the most populous and wealthy parishes of London—as is now being done in Marylebone, St. Pancras, and Lambeth, for instance—in order that the inhabitants may themselves provide that protection which they cannot obtain from the regular police force whom they pay to furnish it.

We suppose we shall be deemed rabid Radicals, revolutionists, levellers, and so forth, if we utter a protest against the revival of the absurdities of Lord Mayor's Day, the ridiculous procession from Guildhall to Westminster, and all the other puerilities of that great civic festival, which is the other grand November saturnalia of the roughs, thieves, and imbeciles of the metropolis and neighbourhood. We are told in the newspapers that, though greater crowds than ever congregated along the line of procession on Monday, the said crowds were more good-humoured and less inclined for mischief than usual. Well, that is something to congratulate ourselves upon; but the "good-humour" did exhibit itself in the wonted manner occasionally. There were mobs of roughs running along in the rear of the cortege, venting their good-humour in playful bonneting of old gentlemen, smashing of hats, hustling of women, and picking of pockets. At the Mansion House Police Court alone, as we learn from the newspaper reports, "no fewer" than eighteen "good-humoured" individuals were "had up" for indulging in the last-named species of amusement; while at Guildhall and elsewhere cases of ruffianly misconduct were investigated.

Now, we are quite willing to allow that, if some great and special occasion required it, we might be content to put up with the interruption of communication between the east and the west of the metropolis for nearly an entire day, as well as with the tomfoolery of the Lord Mayor's show, the breaking of heads, the damaging of hats and coats, and the picking of pockets; but we fail to see the necessity for enduring all this in order that an unmeaning and obsolete pageant may be kept up—a pageant that is an incongruity and an absurdity in these days at all events, if it ever was anything else. We forget, however: the Lord Mayor's show, gilt coach and all, are "emblems of the sovereignty of the people." Lord Mayor Lawrence has told us so; and, of course, we are bound to submit to the dictum of the civic king. But then, why cannot the City monarch confine the exhibition of his emblems of popular sovereignty to his own dominions, and not intrude them and the roughs among the residents in quiet central and west-end regions who have neither part nor lot in City pomp, privilege, and power, and who should not, therefore, be exposed to the inconvenience and detriment for which City ceremonials furnish an occasion? What need is there, it may well be asked, for the Lord Mayor of London going to Westminster at all on the 9th of November? and, above all, what necessity is there for his going there in a sham imitation of mediæval state? It is bad enough that the authorities should fail to protect honest, peaceable citizens from the depredations of professed robbers; but it is intolerable that the authorities should themselves create opportunities for the perpetration of those depredations. The late Lord Mayor Allen did not display much of the wisdom that should distinguish the conscript fathers of a city while he filled the civic chair; but, at all events, by banishing the gilt coach and otherwise abridging the procession, he set an example which, if followed up, might have led in time to the abolition of the whole barbaric display, and so have rid London of what all save City dignitaries and other imbeciles consider an unmitigated nuisance. But a gentleman who boasts himself free from Conservative prejudices has restored "the old and time-honoured" civic pageant—Time, we think, must have been in great lack of objects of reverence when he conferred honour on such an exhibition—and it has become a fashion to justify the revival on the ground that Lord Mayor's Day provides a holiday for the people of the metropolis that they might not otherwise obtain. Well, we don't object to holidays, so we suppose we shall have to endure "the show" for a few years longer, until someone shall arise with brains enough to devise and arrange a holiday for the masses which they may enjoy in a way more rational, more agreeable to themselves, and with less inconvenience, annoyance, and

danger to the purses and persons of others, than the fool-and-thieves' carnival of Lord Mayor's Day. May that wise man soon appear, and that good time come speedily!

#### THE ELECTION RIOTS AT BLACKBURN.

NOTWITHSTANDING the excitement attending the approaching election, it is not probable that serious breaches of the peace are likely to occur generally throughout the country. But exceptions may happen; and, unluckily, the exceptions will bring almost as much disgrace as if they were the rule. However peacefully the elections may be held in the majority of the constituencies, if in some two or three there are political riots, with destruction of property and loss of life, the few black sheep will bring discredit upon all the flock. There is at least one constituency in which disturbances will occur almost to a certainty, if vigorous measures are not taken by the authorities to prevent them. Blackburn, as our readers know, has already achieved, at the recent municipal elections, an unenviable notoriety; and so much bad blood has been engendered there between the two political parties that much mischief may be expected if, during the excitement of the approaching contest, they are allowed to come unchecked into collision. Lives were lost in a riot there the other day, and a system of persecution for no other offence than difference of political opinion has been carried on in many of the mills after the worst fashion of "rattening." Hundreds of peaceable, industrious workpeople are said to have been turned forcibly out of their work and houses for the atrocious crime of being "Radicals," while at the municipal elections many of the voters were deterred by actual violence from reaching the poll. It is believed that the Conservatives are chiefly to blame; but with this question we are not now concerned. It is enough to know that disturbances are to be apprehended, and that the imperative obligation of the authorities to repress them is precisely the same, from whichever party they originate. Unluckily—and this is by far the most discreditable part of the matter—some of the very men who ought not only to set a good example, but by their influence as large employers of labour to enforce the preservation of peace, are, if not actually encouraging violence, at least taking no adequate measures to repress it. If a riot occurs, they will be morally responsible for it, whether it be or be not possible to bring the responsibility home to them.

The riots of which the town has already been the scene occurred in connection, as has already been said, with the municipal elections. On Monday, Nov. 2, the election of twelve councillors took place, and the proceedings throughout the whole of the day were characterised by acts of riot, bloodshed, wilful damage, and general disorder which were by no means a credit to the town. Political feeling was first aroused in the borough on the Irish Church question; this was followed by the issue of the addresses of the Parliamentary candidates and the subsequent processions; and as it was generally understood that the result of the municipal elections would have an effect upon the general election, political feeling was intensified, and the proceedings in various wards last week went to prove that a severe contest was to be expected at every polling-booth. Each side brought out their best men as candidates, and meetings were held every night in all the wards. On Friday evening, Oct. 30, riots of a fierce character broke out at Nova Scotia, by which several persons were seriously injured. On that evening several municipal meetings were being held at different public-houses, and at many of them a great deal of beer was drunk, the partisans becoming greatly intoxicated. The two different parties met in the street, and strong language was used on both sides, which rapidly led to blows. Before many minutes were over, stones and sticks were seen flying about in all directions, and many were armed with bludgeons, which they used in a most violent manner. Soon, a general fight ensued, in which several hundreds of people took part, and which greatly alarmed the neighbourhood. Large numbers of windows were broken. Information was immediately conveyed to the police-station, and Mr. Chief-constable Potts, with a large number of policemen, hurried to the spot. They drew their truncheons, and endeavoured to disperse the mob; but as the mob was so great their efforts for some time were unavailing. A crowd of the Tory party then proceeded in a body to the Ivy Inn, Infirmary-street, which is the place of meeting of the Liberal committee. They smashed the windows in the building, and it was some time before the police could drive them away. The next place the rioters went to was the Infirmary Hotel, the windows of which they broke, and assaulted the landlord, Mr. Ralph Holden. The police made a charge on the mob, and succeeded at last in dispersing them, but it was not until after midnight that they were able to drive the rioters from the streets. The fronts of most of the polling-booths were barricaded in order to keep the road clear for voters; and this precaution, there can be no doubt, facilitated the business on Monday, the 2nd inst. On Sunday, the 1st inst., two of the 1st Dragoon Guards, stationed at Fulwood Barracks, near Preston, arrived in the town, and the report rapidly spread throughout the town that the military were coming. These two men had come to make arrangements for the billeting of a number of their "companions in arms;" and the arrival of forty of the Guards, under the command of Captain Benhall, in the town at half-past eight on Monday morning surprised many persons who had been unaware of the intended mounted visitors. They were billeted at several of the inns in the town, and before twelve o'clock their services were called into requisition to quell an angry and turbulent mob. There can be no doubt that the services of the military were most opportune. But for their presence, in all probability many lives would have been lost in the riots which took place during the day, a vast amount of property would have been destroyed, and other depredations committed. Besides the military, the borough police were assisted by a hundred policemen from Manchester, Bolton, Chorley, and Blackburn lower division of the county constabulary. The greatest excitement prevailed throughout the day, and the fights which took place in various parts of the town were very fierce. In almost all the principal streets men might be seen with ghastly and sickening wounds upon their heads, from which blood was streaming upon their shoulders. The shops in the principal streets were closed, the mills were stopped, and portions of the town some distance from the polling-booths assumed a deserted appearance. When the polls closed the streets began to thin, and during the evening no disturbances took place. The military left the town for Preston shortly before twelve o'clock at noon on Tuesday, the 3rd. During the day, especially in the morning, men were seen carrying armfuls of picking-sticks from Mr. Hornby's mill, in Brookhouse; whilst other men were seen at intervals during the day coming from a timber-yard in Preston New-road with newly-made staffs. Bribery at the polling-booths was unblushingly indulged in, 5s. and 7s. 6d. being the prevalent price for the votes of the "free and independent" burgesses.

The incident depicted in our Engraving occurred at Mr. Boyle's works, in Simon's-street, and is thus described by a local contemporary:—"Before the poll closed Mr. Hornby was informed by some of his friends that a number of men who intended to vote for him were confined in Mr. James Boyle's steam preserve-works, in Simon's-street. Mr. Hornby, Mr. Bell, and a taxgatherer, named Robert Duckworth, whose zeal in election matters often exceeds his discretion, hurried to Mr. Boyle's works, which they found closed. A large plank was obtained, and with this they used every endeavour to burst open the door. A gentleman went on horseback to Mr. Boyle to acquaint him with what was going on, and Mr. Boyle at once got into a cab and drove to his works. Mr. Hornby told him he had been informed that there were some of his men confined in the building. This Mr. Boyle denied, at once opened the door, and told Mr. Hornby and his friends to go inside and search the premises, commencing with his private office. After examining some of the premises, Mr. Hornby told Mr. Boyle he had been mistaken and that he was confident no men were secreted upon the premises. This did not altogether suit a few of the 'gentlemen' who were with Mr. Hornby,

and a man who was half drunk was sent to examine the place. He went through some of the rooms, and when in one part of the premises his eye caught something that was moving, and he exclaimed, 'There's one!' Mr. Boyle told him to take him if he was a voter, but the supposed voter turned out to be a mouse! Two or three policemen arrived shortly afterwards, and to make 'assurance doubly sure,' they would have a look through the premises. They upturned a quantity of straw, suspecting that the missing voters were underneath, but not a voter could they find. The policemen were more indefatigable in their exertions than the searchers who preceded them, and their curiosity and cunning led them to open and look into some 18-in. flues for the fifty missing voters! One of the windows of the premises had been left open for the purpose of ventilation, and a number of ragged urchins attempted to get through the windows by climbing up a rain-spout. When Mr. Boyle had satisfied the chopfallen Tories that none of their men were upon his premises they went away; but there can be no doubt that, had he not arrived and allowed them to examine the premises, they would have smashed the windows, and probably done several hundred pounds' worth of damage."

One death, at least, has resulted from these disgraceful proceedings. The name of the deceased is Patrick Gallagher, a bricklayer's labourer, living in Maudsley-street, Audley. He was engaged on Monday afternoon amongst the rioters in the locality of the Darwen-street polling booth. After the military had left his part of the town to quell a disturbance in another portion of it, riot-throwing was resorted to, and a general riot ensued. The deceased was seen to throw a stone, which struck Police-constable Critchley on the head and knocked him down. Police-constable Ramsbottom, seeing this, jumped over the barriers of the polling-booth, and struck the deceased a blow on the head with a truncheon, and felled him to the ground. Ramsbottom was himself then knocked down, and was taken to the police station in a weak condition. Gallagher died next day of the injuries he received.

Four weavers—two men and their wives—summarily dismissed from one of the mills because the men voted for a Liberal in the municipal elections, took out summonses against their employers for wages in lieu of notice. The case, however, did not come to a hearing, for the millowners were glad to settle it by paying all the money claimed and all the costs of action.

The magistrates of Blackburn and the neighbourhood have resolved to ask for military aid to preserve peace at the coming election. They declare that they have every reason to believe that the rioting at this election will be quite as serious as at the last, and they have no confidence in their ability to preserve order with any force of constables, special or ordinary, at their disposal.

The attention of Mr. Gladstone having been called to the recent eviction of Liberal workmen and their relatives from mills owned by Conservatives at Blackburn, the right hon. gentleman has written to the Gladstone Reform Club, in that town, reminding them that such proceedings might form a very proper subject of investigation by the House of Commons. Mr. Gladstone adds:—"The House is not likely to want either the will or the power to vindicate freedom of election, and duly to visit those who attempt to put it down."

#### GENERAL ESPARTERO.

"ESPARTERO for King!" is reported to be the cry of Spain. The most temperate of Spanish statesmen is to be appealed to in his country's greatest strait; and the crown there has been such difficulty in bestowing is to be thrust on one whose patriotic efforts, a quarter of a century since, as Regent were nullified by the deep corruption of the Court. If the news be true, it makes the latest circumstance of Espartero's prolonged life a logical sequence to what is known of it in the past. It is when Spain is most troubled and anxious that she looks to Espartero. When the political horizon was comparatively smooth, O'Donnell's great rival had been permitted to live in obscurity, while his name was seldom mentioned in connection with affairs of state. It was thus, in 1854, when Queen Isabella, much against her will, was compelled to seek him out, and to place him at the head of affairs, though he had been leading the unobtrusive life of a private citizen ever since he had returned from his exile in England years before. It was thus when insurrections were organised in his name at Madrid and Saragossa in 1856. He held himself aloof from a movement of which those really directing it pretended he was the head; and, as if to prove the completeness of his retirement from the field of politics, he resigned his senatorship in the following year. It is a strange turn of fortune which makes him now spoken of as the probable successor to the throne; but the whole tenor of his past career goes to prove that he would, if crowned, rule constitutionally and well. Himself a soldier, who first gained power by his victories over Zumalacaregui, he has constantly opposed those representing the principle of unscrupulous military domination. It was Narvaez before whom he retired into exile. It was the impossibility of working in harmony with O'Donnell that caused his last dismissal. But Espartero is seventy-six years old; and, despite the vigour he has shown, was originally intended for the priesthood by reason of his feeble health. To make him King now would be to place him in a position beyond his strength, and to expose him and Spain to the countless intrigues of men eager to supplant or to succeed him even, while working in his name.

ONLY A SLIGHT MISTAKE.—The Ritualists have adopted the word "Mass" for their celebration of the communion service. A near-sighted Roman priest, a stranger to Brighton, mistook St. Michael's for the Catholic church, where he was going to say a low mass. The two churches are near each other, and both of bright red-coloured stone or brick. Attributing the apparent want of holy water at the entrance to the fault of the architect or to his own near-sightedness, he went up the side aisle, catching a glimpse of a vested priest at the "high altar," and entered the sacristy. Here he asked of an attendant if he could say mass there that morning. The answer was that he could. Now, as the priest was unrobing, before putting on the surplice, &c., which were all spread out before him, there enters the sacristy the clergyman, fresh from celebrating, attended by a "servant," and carrying "paten, chalice, and corporal," in as orthodox a manner as could the Pope himself. Now, as the priest turned to look at this gentleman, in whom he expected to find the Parochos of the Catholic community, his eye lighted upon three University hoods. "Do you wear hoods here?" he inquired. The clergyman replied that such was their custom. "I was told," says the priest, hesitating, "that I could say mass here this morning." "So you can," returns the clergyman, blandly. "But—ahem!—is this a Catholic church?" "Yes," was the calm answer. "Ah!" says the priest, "is it the Roman Catholic church?" "Oh!" replies the Ritualist, meekly, "you must go lower down for that."

THE LONDON INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE.—Monday, the birthday of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, was celebrated by a holiday at the International College, Spring Grove. In the course of the day two marble busts—one of the Prince of Wales, who has always shown the deepest interest in this institution, and the other of the late Richard Cobden, who was one of the earliest to recognise the value of education as an international bond—were unveiled in the entrance-hall of the college. The busts, which are from the chisel of Mr. M. Noble, are the gift of Mr. B. Armitage, of Manchester, one of the directors of the college. At half-past one o'clock the masters and pupils of the college, several of the directors, and other friends of the institution, assembled in the entrance-hall to witness the ceremony. A letter was read from the donor, Mr. Armitage, in the course of which he said, regarding the busts:—"It will, I think, be agreeable to Dr. Schmitz, our Principal, that one of them should represent the Prince whose friendship he has enjoyed for many years, and who has shown so much interest in the prosperity of the college. The other bust represents a man whose private character endeared him to all who had the privilege of his friendship, and whose great qualities as an economist and statesman enabled him to confer enduring benefits upon mankind. His favourite project of establishing in various countries colleges like your own, in which the youth of different nations might learn to speak each other's languages, is simply one illustration of the great aim of his life, which was to promote the intercourse of nation with nation, and to establish peace on the basis of mutual dependence and common interests." The gift was acknowledged, on the part of the directors, by Dr. W. B. Hodgson. Three hearty cheers were then given for the Prince and for the memory of Cobden respectively. On the motion of Dr. Hodgson, a vote of thanks was given to Mr. Noble, the sculptor of the busts, who was present. The company then sat down to dinner with the boys and masters in the handsome dining-hall of the college. The proceedings of the day terminated with a brilliant display of fireworks in the evening.



## Foreign Intelligence.

## FRANCE.

In Paris the chief topic at present commented on by the press and discussed by the public is the proceeding by the Government against those journals that have advocated subscriptions for raising a monument to the memory of M. Baudin, who, on the occasion of the coup-d'état of December, 1851, was shot down in a barricade while opposing the soldiery.

The Chambers, which were to have met about Dec. 15, will not be opened, it is believed, until Jan. 5, as several of the Ministers have announced that the budgets of their departments cannot be got ready before the latter date. The Session will be but short, as the general elections are to take place in the course of the month of May.

The election of a deputy for the department of La Manche was held on Sunday. M. Prenne, the only candidate, polled 24,600 votes, a much larger number than was given for his predecessor. The election of a deputy for the department of Charente also took place on Sunday. The number of registered electors is 27,934. M. Bodet, candidate in favour of the Government, polled 13,604 votes; M. Laroche, likewise a Ministerial candidate, polled 8690 votes; and M. Marot, the Opposition candidate, 6823 votes. The two former candidates are adherents of the Government, although not officially supported. Neither candidate having obtained an absolute majority, there must be a fresh election.

Algerian newspapers speak of a probable attempt on the part of the hostile tribes of the South against the tribes which are in alliance with France.

## SPAIN.

The electoral law was promulgated on Tuesday. Every citizen of twenty-five years of age who is not incapacitated for political rights is entitled to vote for the election of town councillors, provincial deputies, and deputies to the Constituent Cortes. The general elections will be by provinces. Provinces where not more than six deputies are to be elected will be divided into two circumscriptions; where over six and not more than ten are to be elected, into three circumscriptions; and where there are more than ten deputies the province will be divided into electoral districts of 45,000 inhabitants. The voting will last three days, and the electoral lists will be made out between the 15th and the 25th inst. There will be 350 deputies in the Cortes.

A decree has been issued by Marshal Serrano confirming General Prim in the rank of Captain-General, or Marshal, of the army, which was conferred on him on Sept. 30 last. Prim has issued a circular to the army, enforcing the necessity of discipline, as the source of its moral and material strength, and prohibiting soldiers from taking part, individually or collectively, in associations or meetings for the expression of political ideas or objects.

A decree signed by Marshal Serrano nominates twenty-five Councillors of State, five of whom are to preside at the different departments of the Council. Another decree, signed by the Minister of Justice, orders the reappointment of all justices of the peace in the Peninsula, the Balearic Islands, and the Canary Islands.

A decree has been issued by the Provisional Government authorising the erection of an English Protestant church in Madrid.

General Novaliches is in a fair way of recovery.

Among the many deceased generals and persons of note to whom the people of Madrid have lately been paying funeral honours is Marshal O'Donnell, whose claim to the affection and admiration of his countrymen is said to be that he was when in authority less tyrannical, absolute, and grasping than other men; and, above all, that he "raised the flag of Spain to its highest pinnacle of glory by his operations against the Moors."

Letters from the Spanish frontier speak very confidently of a Carlist rising being contemplated in Navarre and Catalonia, and of 4000 or 5000 chasseur musketeers being already introduced into Spain, in spite of the vigilance of the authorities on both sides of the frontier, and of the purchase of rifled cannon.

## ITALY.

There have been rumours for some time past in the Italian papers that fresh negotiations were on foot, or were concluded, for the purpose of settling the Roman question. These rumours are now authoritatively contradicted by the semi-official *Correspondance Italienne*. That journal says the state of affairs has undergone no essential modification. "It is not true," it adds, "that a convention or any other arrangement whatever has been concluded. The Italian Cabinet having itself drawn up the programme, with which everyone is acquainted, in order to define its policy in presence of the difficulties which separate the Holy See from Italy, has honestly acted upon it, for it saw in the accomplishment of that programme the only guarantee that could be claimed from it."

The police of Palermo have discovered a fully organised reactionary committee, and seized proclamations advocating Sicilian autonomy. One individual who was arrested declared that the intention of the conspirators was to have claimed the protection of the English squadron.

## ROME.

An ordinance of Cardinal Antonelli announces that his Holiness has ordered a modification of the export duty upon 200 articles of manufacture, in order to encourage the development of trade.

The Pope has also instructed the Papal Chargé d'Affaires at Lucerne to afford all possible succour to the sufferers from the recent inundations.

Desertions from the Pontifical army continue to be very numerous, and the arrivals of volunteer recruits have greatly diminished. Large quantities of ammunition are arriving, mostly, however, from the Catholic communities of France. Remington rifles are being distributed to the troops.

## PRUSSIA.

In the Lower House of the Diet, on the 6th inst., the Minister of Finance brought forward the Budget for 1869. The deficit amounts to 5,200,000 thalers, which he proposes to cover by the sale of railway shares, &c., in possession of the Government, and by the eventual surplus of the different departments. The total amount of revenue and expenditure balanced will then be 167,597,463 thalers, or 7,840,605 more than last year. The net revenue has decreased by 236,638 thalers. It was resolved that the Budget should not be referred to a special committee, but should undergo the preliminary discussion in the full sitting of the House.

## AUSTRIA.

The debate on the army bill commenced in the Lower House of the Reichsrath on Wednesday. Baron Beust combated the arguments of the opponents of the Government, and denied that he had spoken in disquieting terms at the sitting of the Committee on the bill, declaring that he had hitherto done nothing which could create anxiety. He expressed regret that any discontent should still be manifested against the conclusion of the compromise with Hungary, an act which all Europe regarded as having strengthened the monarchy. Referring to the bill under discussion, he said:—"The Ministry must make the passage of this bill a Cabinet question as decisively as it did with regard to the fundamental and religious laws when they were before the House. If a complete undertaking prevail between the Ministry and the Chamber, the people will not find the military reorganisation fixed on too large a scale." Minister Burger demonstrated that the military bill would not, as stated by some Opposition members, prove to be the ruin of Austria from a political, politico-economical, and financial point of view. The policy of the Government was the maintenance of peace, and the only retaliation it aimed at would be attained by the creation of a free Austria. Herr Giskra, Minister of the Interior, declared that the Government had maturely considered every circumstance, and was only doing its duty. Count von Taaffe, who spoke on behalf of the President of the Ministry, stated that

motives of political honour compelled the Government to make the bill a Cabinet question.

## ROUMANIA.

Both Chambers are convoked for the 27th inst. The National Guard at Baken, which was disbanded for taking part in the persecutions of the Jews last summer, has been re-established.

## RUSSIA.

The Conference sitting at St. Petersburg respecting the employment of explosive missiles in war have decided that no explosive projectile weighing less than 400 grammes shall be used.

After the commencement of the new year all the present official and semi-official newspapers in Russia are to be suppressed, and the Government will speak through only one official organ, which is to be called the *Moniteur of the Government*.

## THE UNITED STATES.

A letter of President Johnson, in reply to the inquiries of General Ewing, has been published, in which it is stated that the national expenditure of the past three years was in the aggregate 1,259,000,000 dols., and the estimated expenditure of the present year 372,000,000 dols. Immediate retrenchment is necessary to avert bankruptcy. A wise economy, however, could soon increase the revenue and diminish taxation. If the debt were permitted to increase, it would be gathered into the hands of a few, who could exercise a dangerous controlling influence thereby.

The Secretary of the Treasury has made his usual monthly statement of the public debt of the United States, which shows its total on the 1st inst. to have been 2641 millions of dollars. This is a decrease during the last month of four millions of dollars. The Government receipts during the last month were in excess of the expenditure about seven millions of dollars.

Treaties have been ratified between the United States, Italy, and Bavaria providing for the reciprocal recognition of the naturalisation laws, as well as the extradition of criminals, but not of political offenders.

It is reported that the whites in Louisiana are generally arming, and that the hostility between the whites and blacks is increasing to a serious extent.

## CUBA.

The Cuban insurgents have offered to submit to the authorities if pardoned. General Lersundi, however, refuses pardon to the leaders. It is rumoured that the insurgents have been reinforced from New Orleans, where a filibustering expedition is being organised.

## CHINA.

The survey of the Yellow River in China, undertaken under the auspices of the Asiatic Society, had commenced. Mr. Cooper had reached as far as Bathang, when the Chinese authorities refused to allow him to cross over into Tibet. He has fallen back upon the Bhamo route, in the direction of Calcutta.

## INDIA.

Intelligence from Bombay to the 24th ult. states that the expeditionary force on the north-west frontier had brought most of the turbulent tribes to submission, and that terms of peace had been concluded with them. The force is now operating against the independent Swates. The hardship and exposure inseparable from such a mountain warfare has, unfortunately, caused much illness among our troops.

The fall of Muscat and the deposition of the Imaum are announced.

The state of the crops in many parts of India is such as to justify the worst anticipations of famine. In one place, according to the *Bombay Gazette*, the wretched inhabitants are endeavouring to save themselves from its consequences by enlisting in the service of Government; and an overwhelming number of volunteers are ready to fill vacancies in the ranks of the irregular force as soon as they may occur. The latest accounts from Rajpootana continue most unfavourable, says the *Friend of India*. "Should rain be delayed another fortnight, nothing can save the country from a lamentable famine. Already, at this season of the year, when pasturage should be most abundant, cattle are being driven away in vast numbers towards Bundelcund and Malwa. From Marwar a stream of emigration flows uninterruptedly. Strings of carts, with men, women, and children, are to be met with on all sides, fleeing from their ill-fated country." "At Jeypore," says the *Englishman*, "the failure of the crops has been almost total. Bands of robbers have appeared in various directions, and have attempted to pursue their calling with the utmost boldness." The accounts from Delhi and the Central Indian provinces were more hopeful.

## GREAT ASSEMBLY-ROOM AT THE CANNON-STREET HOTEL.

CONSIDERING how great a rage there is in London for public meetings of all descriptions, and how little can be effected even in the way of charitable effort without anniversary banquets and assemblies held for the purpose of stimulating interest in benevolent institutions, it is remarkable how few buildings have been so adapted as to supply the constant need for handsome, lofty, and commodious rooms, where a few hundred people may sit in comfort and listen to speeches; take part in discussions; or, on great occasions, join in some festivity worthy of the name for the sake of promoting a mutual good understanding and learning something of the objects for which appeals are constantly being made to their sympathies.

With few exceptions—so few that notice has to be given a week or two beforehand when a room capable of accommodating a large number of persons is required—the public meetings of London are held in such discomfort that it requires a very robust philanthropy or a very earnest partisanship to induce ladies and gentlemen to submit to spend two or three hours in the dingy ante-rooms and the frowzy atmosphere of the larger halls to which they are invited; and a delicate sympathy may very easily be injured by the time that the arrival of the chairman gives a slight flip to already jaded energies, and the deep depression that comes upon the faint and famishing guests, who march in to a banquet to the odour of mock-turtle soup and roast haunch of mutton.

It was to be expected that a new building especially devoted to the service of the public should have regarded the provision of a large and handsome assembly-room as one of the first requisites for success, and it is not surprising, therefore, to find at the hotel at the railway station in Cannon-street that this urgent claim has been amply provided for. It is surprising, however, to the visitor accustomed to the usual routine of public meetings of all sorts, and therefore expecting only a slight improvement on the ordinary big room of a first-class tavern or hotel, to discover that a large proportion of the vast space occupied by this building has been devoted to this purpose, and that one of the finest apartments in Europe, furnished and fitted with taste as well as comfort, is a part of the undertaking. The election meetings that are now being held there will probably make thousands of people better acquainted with the large assembly-room at Cannon-street, and it is indeed worthy of recognition as combining all the better elements of a private dining-room with the spacious proportions and handsome architectural ornamentation of a public hall.

This fine apartment, which was designed, with the entire building, by Mr. Barry, is decorated with rich carved and gilded mouldings above the six large windows which occupy one side of its entire length; and above the windows themselves the shields and arms of the principal cities of Europe are a prominent part of the decorations. A movable platform, or rather one of three platforms of different sizes, can occupy either the end of the room opposite to the handsome gallery, the front of which is of richly-carved woodwork, or can be placed in the middle of that side of the apartment where doors open from a corridor into two spacious drawing-rooms, which are let with the hall itself for the accommodation of visitors. Though there are six arched windows at

the side, the room itself is principally lighted from the roof, which is composed of squares of coloured glass set in deep square frameworks, and surmounted by an outer glass roof, by means of which perfect ventilation without draught is secured. At night eight powerful "sun lights" give a very brilliant effect to the room, where there is space for about eight hundred chairs, with ample space for ingress and egress; and five or six hundred persons can sit down to dinner without the least crowding.

Our Engraving represents the aspect of this fine apartment on the occasion of the sixth annual meeting of the fourth City Mutual Building and Investment Society, on the 3rd inst. Mr. G. Walter occupied the chair, and tea was provided for the members present. The report of the directors of the society, which is in a very prosperous condition, states:—"The amount advanced during the year is £46,060; and the total amount of the advances since the commencement of the society is £149,925. The balance remaining to the credit of the profit-and-loss account, after carrying forward £40,090 8s. 10d. for future interest on advances, and adding £100 to the reserve-fund account, is £1373 7s. 6d., out of which interest will be paid on the original investing shares (that is, shares taken prior to the new issue, which commenced on the March 13 last), at the rate of 8 per cent per annum. The number of investing shares now in existence is 1840, which (when fully paid up) will give a capital of £110,400, and of which £69,878 12s. 1d. remained to the credit of the members on Sept. 30." The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, told his hearers that the society was one of the most thriving institutions in the metropolis, and mentioned, as proof of the interest which the directors felt in it, that their investment amounted to no less a sum than £15,000. He assured the members that the business was watched with a vigilant eye, and that the mortgages on which advances were made were examined by a careful and able solicitor, who, aided by the board, took care to avoid all transactions of a doubtful character. Mr. Payne, in seconding the motion, took occasion to observe that the society was entitled to the support of industrious working men, to whom it offered advantages which could not be obtained elsewhere. The report having been passed, the secretary (Mr. Higham) entered into a lengthened statement, showing the increasing development of the society. The proceedings terminated with votes of thanks to the chairman, secretary, and solicitor.

## THE POPE'S VISIT TO CIVITA VECCHIA.

THE Pope paid a visit to Civita Vecchia on the 26th ult., and had a beautiful day for his excursion. His Holiness is always matutinal, and made his appearance at 7.30 a.m. at the Roman termini, where he was received by Cardinal Berardi, Minister of Commerce and Public Works; Monsignor Randi, Minister of Police; General Kantzler, Minister of Arms; and a host of other civil and military dignitaries. At 9.30 the Pontifical train entered the Civita Vecchia station, where his Holiness was received by Cardinals Reisach, Guidi, and Quaglia, and drove towards the town between files of French and Papal troops, General Dumont riding on the right side of the carriage, and the officers of his staff following. The Pope had an opportunity in this short drive of seeing the new fortifications bristling with cannon, which sight is said to have elicited from him the remark, "We have returned to the time of Julius II.!" Alighting at the cathedral to impart his sacramental benediction to the collected crowd, his Holiness went on foot thence to the Delegates' Palace, from the balcony of which he again conferred his blessing on the people and troops stationed on the principal piazza. From the other side of the palace he blessed the ships and crews in the harbour, where salvos of artillery were fired, flags hoisted, and gay boats prepared for a regatta. The Pope then proceeded to the Throne-room to receive the homage of the French General, the French and Pontifical officers, the local authorities, and provincial deputies, all of whom were allowed the honour of kissing his foot. Three steps led up to the throne, but, being only of planking, one of them gave way, so as to throw the Papal chair out of equilibrium. Pio Nono was not the least disconcerted by this little accident, but rose, observing, "The chair of St. Peter sometimes shakes, but never falls." In his reception of General Dumont some allusion was, of course, made to the occurrences of last year—it being the anniversary of the departure of the French fleet from Toulon with troops in aid of the Papal throne. His Holiness is said to have acknowledged the eminent services afforded by France, to have alluded in very strong language to the reiterated attacks made on the Church from various quarters, and to have predicted that under such provocation there would be limits even to Divine long-suffering. At eleven the Pope and his numerous suite went out to visit the newly-completed arsenal and its dependencies, and afterwards received deputations and religious confraternities until dinner-time, which was fixed for the patriarchal hour of one p.m. Fifty guests were invited to his Holiness's hospitable board, comprising the principal French and Pontifical military authorities, the ecclesiastical and municipal dignitaries, provincial deputies and foreign consuls, with the exception of the consular representative of Mexico, in consequence of his ambiguous position as being no longer accredited by the unfortunate Maximilian and not yet so by Juarez. By three o'clock the banquet was over, and the Pope was re-conducted to the station with the same ceremonial as in the morning, amidst banners, flowers, inscriptions, and decorations of all sorts. Yellow and white flags streamed from the locomotive and carriages as the Pontifical special train whirled back to the Eternal City, where his Holiness arrived at five p.m., and, alighting amidst the compliments of courtiers and the clang of music, walked out of the station and got into his town equipage to drive home to the Vatican. His Holiness seemed cheerful and vigorous, and appeared to enjoy his October holiday very much.

There is an absurd story current in Rome that the Holy Father went to Civita Vecchia to hold an interview with the Emperor Napoleon. The truth is, that he spent the whole time in public, and avoided being alone even with General Dumont. To the address of the French commander he replied in these words:—"I thank you, General, for the sentiments you express, which I know come not only from your lips, but your heart. In defending the Holy See, France defends justice, honour, and truth; and by this course defends also her own honour. You know the state in which the world is to-day, when wicked men are incessantly agitating and seeking to destroy everything. I pray the Lord to lead them to repentance, for if they persist in their present course they will be punished. I say this as Pope, for the patience of God has bounds; and it is time that the world returned to the way of order and duty. As to yourselves, brave defenders, I bless you; and with you I bless your friends, your relations, and the French army and nation. I bless the Imperial family, the Emperor, the Empress, and the Prince Imperial; and I desire that this benediction may dissipate the clouds which obscure the political horizon."

MR. GLADSTONE'S RELIGION.—A Southport elector has written to Mr. Gladstone to ask him whether it is true that he is, as his detractors say, "a Roman Catholic at heart." Mr. Gladstone's reply, dated Hawarden Castle, Nov. 9, 1868, is as follows:—"Sir,—I am much obliged by your letter. It grieves me to learn that the slanders which have hitherto been confined to remote parts have found their way into our division, and are circulated, as you state, by some of the Tories of Southport—I trust a very few. You tell me they allege I am a Roman Catholic in my heart; but they do not attempt to prove it from my conduct. They know that my religious profession is that of the Church of England; and, this being so, to say I am a Roman Catholic is simply to say I am a deliberate liar and a confirmed hypocrite. It is open to them to insult me in this or any other manner; but I will not degrade myself, and the relation between candidates and constituents, by making any declaration whatever, believing, as I do, that it would only draw forth more incredulity and fresh insults. All I wish for them is that they may learn to do to others as they would be done by, and may never receive the calumnious usage which they mete out to me. On the subject of the Ritualist question, I shall declare my opinions on my return to Lancashire, probably at Bootle, in the end of this week."



### M. HENRI ROCHEFORT AND THE FRENCH PRESS.

M. HENRI ROCHEFORT, who was lately one of the most prominent men in France, inasmuch as every one was talking of him and striving for copies of his famous periodical, the *Lantern*, was for several years a leading contributor to *Figaro*, and was noted as well for the pungency of his writing as for the readiness with which he met an opponent, whether in print or with the sword or pistol. He has been the hero of many quarrels and not a few duels; and, though now compelled to live in exile to avoid the penalties decreed against him by the French courts of law, and though his publication has been suppressed in France, M. Rochefort is still a power. His *Lantern* continues to give forth its light, if upon a foreign soil, and large numbers of copies find their way into France, notwithstanding the efforts of the police and the custom-house officials. It is read, too, by those who manage to procure it with all the more avidity because of its being prohibited; but, as the importation and reading have both to be done in secret, the *Lantern* is less prominently before the public eye than it was a few weeks ago; and its influence, no doubt, is diminished in consequence.

But, though M. Rochefort is in exile and the *Lantern* under ban, the spirit of opposition to the Emperor and his Government by which the famous weekly pamphlet was distinguished are not extinct; nor, indeed, is the determination of the French Cabinet to suppress, if possible, all opposition and criticism from the press. The cry of the *Pays*, "more press prosecutions," has been quickly responded to by the authorities, in connivance with whom it was probably raised. The weekly paper conducted by the Deputies Glais Bizioin and Pelletan was seized on Sunday with a view to prosecution. In those cases it is never known for some time what are the passages incriminated. In the present instance there is an article headed "Place à la République," advocating a Republican Government in Spain, which offers to an imperial public prosecutor an *embarras du choix* of indictable matter. The deputy for Paris repudiates the argument, put forward as conclusive by General Prim, that you cannot have a Republic without Republicans. There were no Republicans, he says, in Holland when she shook off the Austrian yoke; waged civil war with the ocean—at once an enemy and an ally; made her microscopic territory the swampy Athens of the seventeenth century, the counting-house of the world, the intrenched camp of thought; and, after having, as a republic, beaten Philip II., forced Louis XIV., the decrepit lover of Madame de Maintenon, to sign with his own Royal hand the disgraceful peace of Utrecht. In like

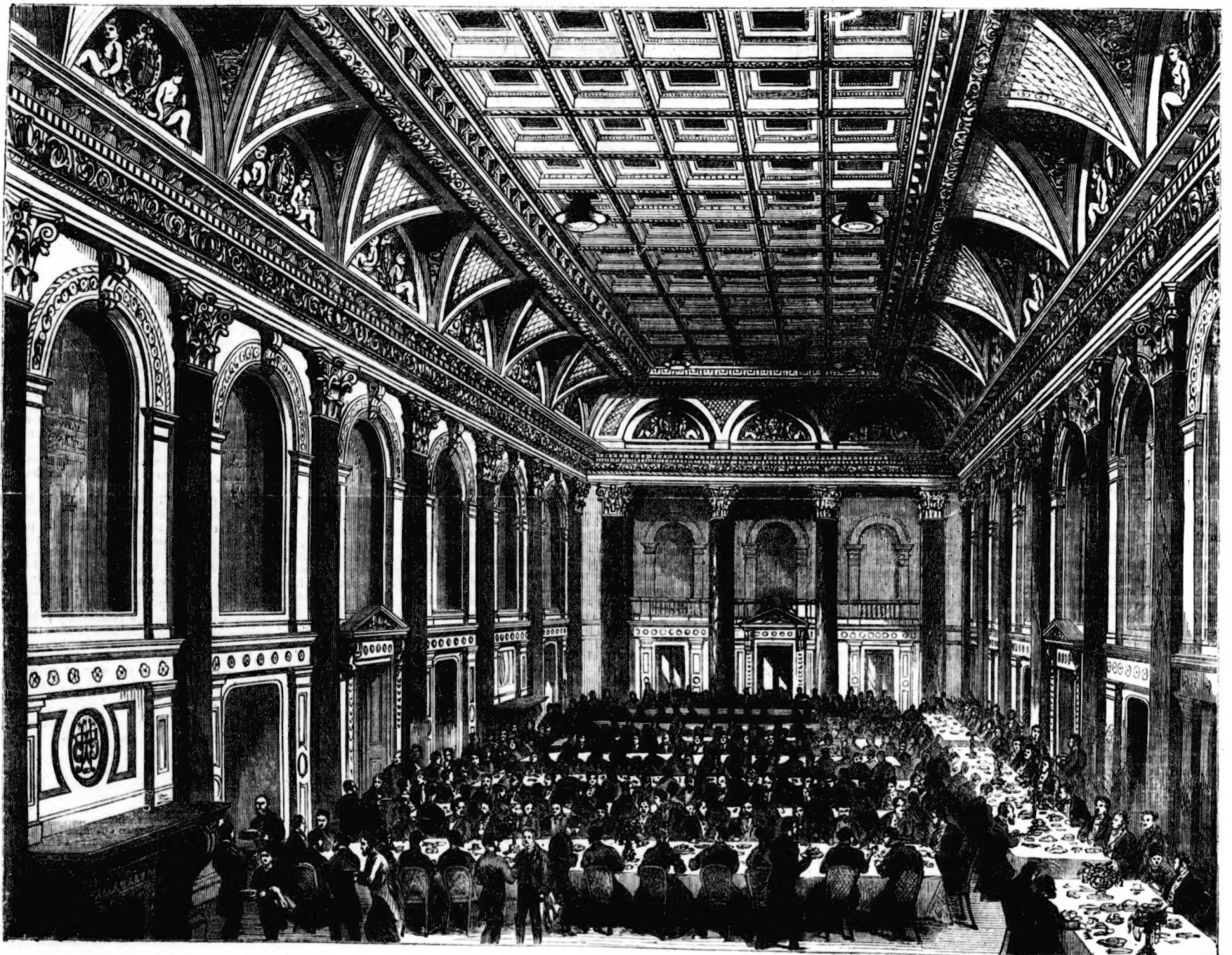


M. HENRI ROCHEFORT, OF THE "LANTERN."

manner there were no Republicans in North America on the day of the declaration of independence, and Washington's staff, "the worst type of militaryism, the military courtier," offered the crown to their General. But the honest Virginia planter was

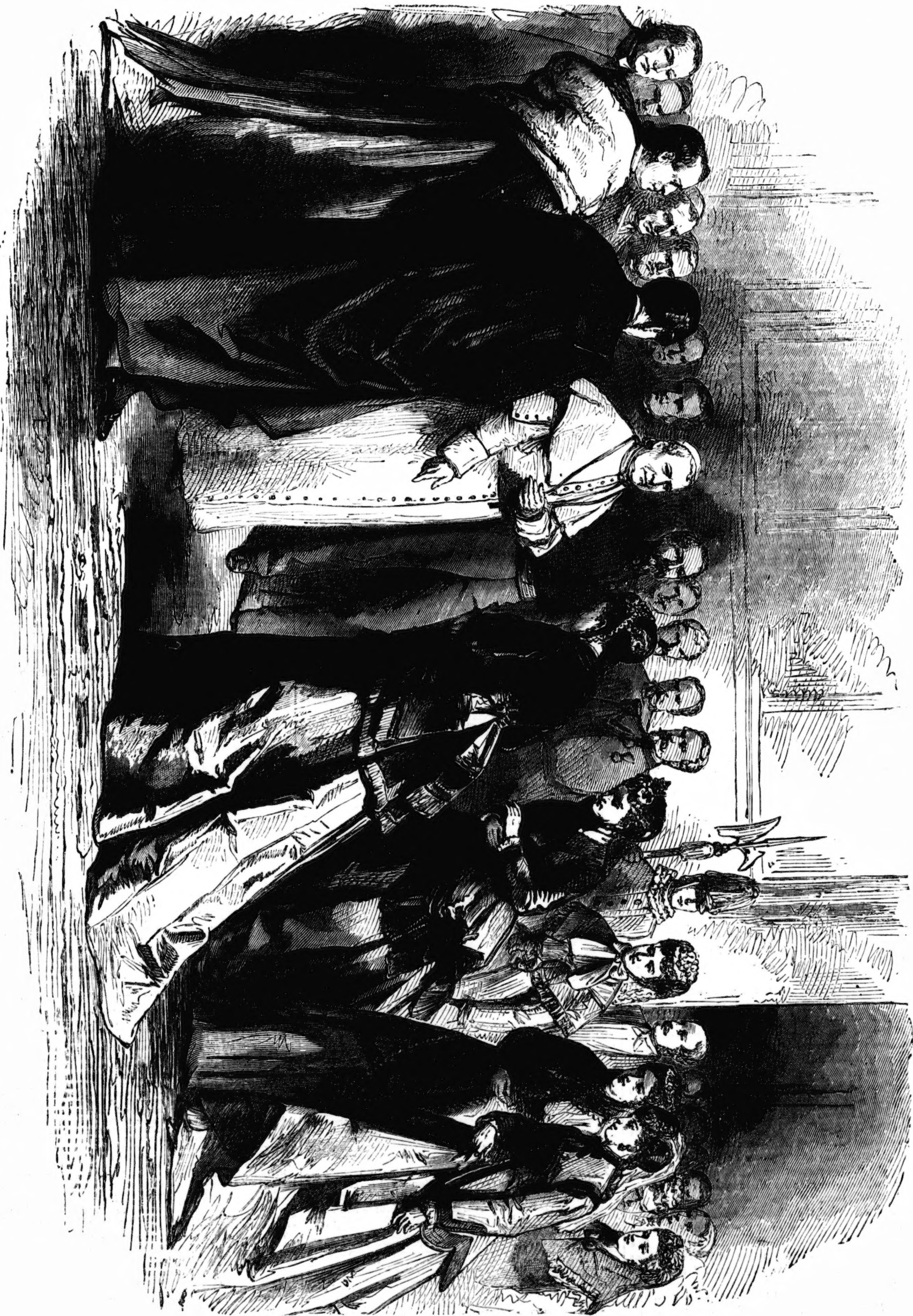
too proud to be anything else but a citizen. He had found time in leisure moments to glance at the chronicles of Europe, and he had seen how in the scale of degraded human beings there was nothing lower than "Louis XV. dying on the dunghill of his reign between an Archbishop and a prostitute." The youngest substitute in the Imperial Courts could easily frame an indictment inculcating the above passage as an attack upon religion and the monarchical principle established in France by universal suffrage. The following passage is a direct attempt to discredit the reigning dynasty:—"The French Revolution proclaimed the Republic, and made the Rhine the frontier of victory. It would have regenerated Europe had it found a Washington, but instead it only found a Bonaparte; and Heaven knows that France has paid dearly enough for the Carlovigian farce played in a satin shirt on a mountebank's velvet-covered platform by a Lieutenant of artillery."

It is probable, however, that the indictment against the *Tribune* will be founded ostensibly on the offence for which the *Avenir National* is prosecuted—that of announcing a public subscription for a monument to M. Baudin, a deputy who was killed during the coup-d'état of Dec. 2, 1851. The question has been asked, with astonishment, what article of the code renders such a proceeding criminal? M. Jules Favre, one of the very first lawyers in the world, and but the other day the official leader of the Paris Bar, has given the subscription the sanction of his name. The discreet *Débats* has not feared to publish M. Prevost-Paradol's name as a subscriber. The *Temps*, with a courage that can scarcely be sufficiently admired under the circumstances, takes the bull by the horns, and, defying the Government to go on with its prosecutions, deliberately associates itself with the delinquents by printing a subscription-list for the monument, which is headed by the respected name of Dufaure, *ancien représentant du peuple*, and a former Minister of President Louis Napoleon Bonaparte. The *France*, although a thoroughly dynastic paper, regrets these prosecutions; but is reproved for its weakness by the now more authorized organ of Imperialism, the *Pays*. It seems that the answer to the question, what law is there to prohibit subscribing for a monument to any citizen? is to be found in a recent statute incriminating "manœuvres in France, with a view to disturb the public peace and excite to hatred and contempt of the Emperor's Government." It was said by the Opposition, when this bill was passed by a servile majority, that the word "manœuvres" was elastic enough to make anything whatever an offence which the Government might choose to treat as such. The Baudin prosecutions seem likely to bear out this phrency. The *Progrès* of Lyons and the *Réveil* have also been seized.



THE GREAT HALL, TERMINUS HOTEL, CANNON-STREET: MEETING OF THE FOURTH CITY MUTUAL BUILDING AND INVESTMENT SOCIETY.

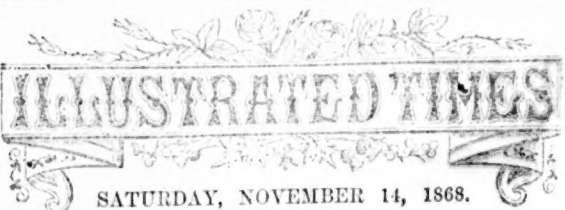




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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1868.

### MR. DISRAELI AND HIS PROSPECTS.

THE Lord Mayor's dinner had been anxiously looked forward to as an occasion on which the Premier would probably think fit to state his views in reference to some of the great questions of the day. On one question—whether he or someone else would be Prime Minister this time next year, which to Mr. Disraeli is, doubtless, the most interesting question of all—he was very explicit indeed. He intends to remain at the head of affairs for at least a twelve-month longer. Although, as Mr. Bright complained the other day at Birmingham, we have no prophets in the political world, such as we can point to in the world of sport, it is nevertheless pretty well known by this time that the result of the coming elections will be to give the Liberals a large majority. Mr. Disraeli, however, cares nothing for majorities. The army of Liberals by which he is already threatened will be to him as an army of savages, while the Conservative forces will constitute a compact, well-armed, well-disciplined corps, like that with which Lord Napier of Magdala overthrew the tyrant Theodoros. "It is the custom," Mr. Disraeli has been told, of "undisciplined hosts on the eve of a battle to anticipate and celebrate their triumph by horrid shouts and hideous yells, the sounding of cymbals, the beating of drums, the shrieks and screams of barbaric hordes." In spite, however, of these formidable demonstrations, it is sometimes found that "the victory is to those who remain calm and collected, to those who have arms of precision, though they may have made no noise—to those who had the breech-loaders, the rocket brigade, and the Armstrong artillery." Mr. Disraeli further stated that he had a programme, and that his programme was to stand by the ancient constitution of the country, and to introduce certain practical measures, chiefly in connection with law reform.

As to the Irish Church, not a word; so that, at this moment, it is still uncertain how Mr. Disraeli proposes to act in regard to its modification; for that its position must be modified Mr. Disraeli has himself admitted. The *Times* is of opinion that Mr. Disraeli has "played his last card," and that he has now nothing to do but to defy his opponents, and make unavailing declarations of his superiority to them. But the fact is Mr. Disraeli has not yet shown his hand. He carefully conceals his game. The only pledge he gives is a pledge to support the British Constitution—which no one, we suppose, thinks of subverting; and it will be just as easy for a man of his ingenuity to show that the Irish Church does not, as to show that it does, form an essential part of it. If the Irish Church has never existed apart from the Constitution, at least the Constitution has existed apart from the Irish Church "as by law established," and may so exist again. Not only is the Irish Church an anomaly in itself; it is, moreover, the cause of all sorts of anomalies and contradictions on the part of those who study and discuss the conditions of its existence. Mr. Gladstone, who has now sworn to overthrow it, was at one time its most determined supporter. Mr. Disraeli, who, presumably, means to defend it, condemned it, in former years, with all possible energy. Earl Russell, who in the latest edition of his work on the British Constitution quotes Mr. Disraeli's condemnation with marked approval, took care, all the time he was in office, not to touch the institution he now wishes to see abolished. We think neither better nor worse of the movement against the Irish Church for its being a party movement. The motives of those who assail it may not be perfectly unselfish; it may be quite true that they proclaim views, now that they are in opposition, which they would have concealed, or perhaps would not have held at all, had they been in power. For all that, the measure advocated by the Opposition is a good one. Indeed, there is precisely this advantage in government by party—that a party not in power may attain power by pursuing a policy favourable to the interests of the empire at large, and that it can scarcely hope to gain its object by any other means. The argument, then, of the Conservatives—that the Liberals, who propose the disestablishment of the Irish Church, would not have done so if the government of the country had been in their hands—amounts to nothing. The thing is proposed now, and must be considered without reference to the reasons which may have led to its proposition.

What, however, if the proposition should come from the other side? Mr. Disraeli, so outspoken on subjects of no immediate pressing importance, would not trust himself at Guildhall to speak of the Irish Church at all. Who knows but that, reverting to the principles of his youth—supposing that he has ever abandoned them, which is by no means

certain—he will not himself recommend changes so great in the government of the Irish Church and in the administration of its revenues that between his measure and the measure of absolute disestablishment which Mr. Gladstone is to bring forward there will really be very little to choose? It is possible that the Liberal majority will not vote as one man for absolute disestablishment; and there are many timid Liberals who, with the fear of Antichrist and the Scarlet Lady constantly before their eyes, would be glad to support a compromise which, while letting down the Protestant Episcopalians of Ireland, would yet not do too much in the way of raising up the Roman Catholics.

However, there is one difficulty which Mr. Disraeli can scarcely surmount. He will probably be met at the very beginning of the Session by a vote of want of confidence; and it is certainly not unnatural that a Parliament should refuse its confidence to a Minister who, being at the head of one party, does the work of another party of directly opposite principles. Lord Derby said more than once of Lord Palmerston, during Lord Palmerston's last tenure of office, that as long as he did the work of the Conservatives it mattered little to the Conservatives how long he remained in power. But the Liberal leader will not take the same cynical-goodnatured view of Mr. Disraeli's conduct if that gentleman, while professing the principles of Conservatism, does the business of Liberalism; and if the Session be commenced with a general attack upon the Prime Minister, he must certainly go down before superior forces. There will be more Liberals than Conservatives in the House. Mr. Disraeli will no doubt endeavour to conquer them by dividing them; but they will, in all probability, assail and defeat him before he has time to bring forward the measure on which he counts for demonstrating their want of union. Under the old system a Minister declared not to possess the confidence of the House had nothing to do but to resign. But of late years that ancient custom has been a good deal disregarded. One thing at least is certain. If Mr. Disraeli does mean to retain office, he can only do so by proposing Liberal measures; and a Conservative Government which belies its name, is, at best, only a little better than one which fully justifies it.

SIR ROUNDELL PALMER has retired from the contest at Oxford University; and Messrs Hardy and Mowbray will now probably "walk over."

A WELSH NAME.—A claim was made before one of the Liverpool revising barristers on the part of John Pritchard, whose qualification consisted of a freehold house in How-street, and whose house was described as "Roelaner-chrugog, near Ruabon." Mr. France (to the friend who appeared for Mr. Pritchard): "You say that he lives at —, you know the place?" The applicant: "Where?" Mr. France: "Oh! I can't pronounce it, and I must leave it to Mr. Leader." Mr. Leader: "Does he live at Rose—, you know where I mean?" Applicant: "Yes; he lives there." Mr. Leader: "Well, we must accept that, for I can't for the life of me pronounce the word. It is sufficient to choke one."

MORTALITY IN THE LATE PARLIAMENT.—Not many Parliaments in modern times have gone to their rest with the loss of so few eminent men as that which was dissolved on Wednesday night. Of the sixty-eight Peers whose deaths have been recorded during the period of its existence, the name of Lord Brougham stands out in almost isolated prominence; while of the twenty-three members of the Lower House who have died, Lord Palmerston's name is the only one which is likely long to be carried in the public remembrance. In the Parliament which came to an end in 1865, Lord Chancellor Campbell, the Duke of Newcastle, the Earl of Carlisle, the Earl of Elgin, Earl Canning, and Lord Herbert of Lea were removed from the Lords; and Mr. Cobden, Sir G. C. Lewis, Sir James Graham, and Mr. Robert Stephenson from the Commons. So great was the mortality in that Parliament, that in six years Lord Palmerston's Government lost ten of its members through death—a remarkable contrast to the tenacity of life shown by Conservative statesmen, for at this moment, if circumstances required, Lord Derby could, with two exceptions, form again the Cabinet which he presented to her Majesty nearly seventeen years ago.

THE INEFFICIENCY OF THE POLICE.—On Wednesday afternoon, at a meeting of the vestry of St. Pancras, a letter was read from the vestry of St. Marylebone enclosing copies of resolutions relative to the inefficiency of the metropolitan police and inviting the vestry to join in a deputation to the Home Office. Mr. Churchwarden Salter, in moving that the vestry co-operate with that of St. Marylebone, said the time had arrived when the public must take energetic measures to obtain an alteration in the present police system, for any one walking about the streets must be aware of the utter incompetency of the police force. He often witnessed scenes that were disgraceful in the extreme; and the police were never to be found when wanted. He fully believed the public would never be properly protected until the management of the police was vested in the local authorities, as in the case of the City police. Mr. North seconded the motion. St. Pancras paid between £25,000 and £26,000 per annum for police, and was not properly protected. He did not blame the men so much as he did the present system, which had driven all the good men out of the service. The City police were admirably managed, and the men were civil and attentive, which was far from being the case with Sir R. Mayne's force. The motion was unanimously carried, and a deputation was appointed.

INTIMIDATION OF VOTERS.—At the Westbury (Wilts) Petty Sessions on Monday, before Messrs. H. G. G. Ludlow and N. Barton, Mr. Joseph Harrop, cloth manufacturer, was summoned for intimidating voters. There were two summonses. The court was crowded. Mr. Montagu Williams appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Edlin for the defendant. The proceedings were instituted by the Society for the Protection of Voters established in Trowbridge. The case for the prosecution was that witness was sent for by his employer, and asked for whom he was going to vote. He said for the Liberal candidate, and he was then told that, if that were his determination, he must take his body where his head was, and was forthwith discharged. The magistrates did not consider that it was the intention of the Legislature that a case of the kind should be preferred before magistrates, and thought it better to leave it to the parties to proceed by indictment at assize, or before the Court of Queen's Bench. There was a similar case against the same defendant for discharging a man named Samuel Grist, and it was similarly dealt with by the Bench. The crowd in court seemed very dissatisfied with the decision. Both the sitting magistrates are Conservatives and members of Mr. Phipps's committee, and Mr. Ludlow, the chairman, has been actively canvassing on his behalf. The clerk to the magistrates (Mr. Pinner) is the election agent of Mr. Phipps.

A NEW RAILWAY TO BRIGHTON.—It is understood that among the schemes to be applied for in the coming Parliament will be one for a new line of railway between London and Brighton. Rumours to this effect have been in circulation for some time, but we are informed that the surveys have been nearly completed, and that the notices will be immediately served, preparatory to the deposit of the plans on the 30th inst. The engineer is a gentleman of considerable standing in his profession, and one remarkable for the economy with which he has carried out several great works both at home and abroad. The capital of the new company will not be more than one million, with the usual borrowing powers. There will not be a hundred yards of tunnel on the whole line, and that at its point of junction with an existing metropolitan railway, over a portion of which the promoters will ask for running powers. Responsible parties have provisionally agreed to construct and equip the line, and purchase the land, within the limits of the capital. There are various features of novelty connected with the construction and working of the railway, and notably so in connection with the scale of fares, which is to be fixed very much below the existing rates. Unfortunately, the eager competition of the South-Eastern and the Chatham in jointly promoting the Brighton line abandoned last session provided an enormous amount of evidence in favour of a new line, which will, no doubt, have due weight with a Parliament in which, if we are to believe all that is predicted of it, the interests of railway shareholders and investors will count for little when weighed in the balance against the demand for popular measures.—*Railway News.*

### SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN has created the Earl of Mayo an extra Knight of the Order of St. Patrick.

THE ANNIVERSARY of the Prince of Wales's birthday was on Monday celebrated in the usual manner, both in London and at Windsor, where the Prince and the Princess were on a visit to the Queen. Royal salutes were fired, the bells of the parish churches were rung, and in the evening the houses of the Royal tradesmen were illuminated.

THE CROWN PRINCE OF PRUSSIA, accompanied by Princess Charlotte, his eldest daughter, arrived in London last Saturday morning. Their Royal Highnesses at once proceeded to Windsor Castle, where the Crown Princess had already arrived, on a visit to her Majesty.

THE EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH is enroute—for the first time since 1856. THE KING OF PRUSSIA has taken the first step towards regaining the good graces of the Frankfort citizens. He has given to that city an annual donation of 80,000*fr.* for the restoration of its cathedral, the gift being assured for ten years to come.

THE KING OF BAVARIA having withdrawn a pension of 1800*fl.* enjoyed by the poet Emmanuel Geibel on account of an ode dedicated to the King of Prussia, the latter has granted to the writer one of 1300 thalers, and has signified his intention of presenting him to a professorship, when vacant, in one of the Prussian Universities.

A REPORT that the Princess of Wales, the Queen of Prussia, and the Empress of Austria, would be among the distinguished guests at Compiègne this season is contradicted on what seems to be semi-official authority. The present political state of Europe, it is alleged, prevents the visit.

SIR JOHN YOUNG leaves town next week, accompanied by Lady Young, to assume his duties as Governor-General of Canada, in succession to Lord Monck.

DR. PROSSER JAMES, rather than divide the Liberal party, has retired from the candidature for the Universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrews, where Dr. Lyon Playfair is now the only Liberal candidate.

KNIGHTHOOD has been conferred upon Mr. James Lumsden, of Arden, Dumbartonshire, Lord Provost of Glasgow.

THE GALATEA, Captain his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, left Plymouth Sound last Saturday for Madeira, Cape of Good Hope, East Indies, &c.

THE EARL OF ALBEMARLE, in reply to a letter addressed to him by Dr. Brady, says that it is not his intention, either at the forthcoming or at any subsequent election, to interfere with his tenants in Leitrim in the exercise of their franchise.

MISS AGNES ZIMMERMANN is about to leave England on a tour in Germany, having accepted engagements to play at some of the principal orchestral concerts.

THE HON. AND REV. ARTHUR SUGDEN, Rector of Newdigate, a village between Horsham and Dorking, died last week from a dose of chloroform taken by mistake.

MR. STANFORD has published a very useful guide to the constituencies of the United Kingdom, showing all the counties, divisions of counties, Parliamentary boroughs, and universities, with the alterations and additions according to the new Reform Act.

THE NEW MEAT AND POULTRY MARKET AT SMITHFIELD will be opened on the 24th inst. In the unavoidable absence of the Prince of Wales, the ceremony will be performed by the Lord Mayor.

MR. ALDERMAN KNIGHT, solicitor, a member of the Tamworth Corporation, fell dead on the floor on Monday at a meeting of the Town Council. Disease of the heart was the cause of death.

THE GARDEN ORACLE, which Mr. Shirley Hibberd has conducted with singular success for ten years past, is announced for publication for the eleventh time.

A TERRIBLE EXPLOSION, by which six men were more or less seriously injured, took place on Sunday, at the Rochdale gasworks. Hopes are entertained of the recovery of all the sufferers.

GENERAL CASSIUS FAIRCHILD, United States Marshal for Wisconsin, and a brother of Governor Fairchild, died at Milwaukee some days ago from a wound received at the battle of Shiloh. He was married on his death-bed to a young lady of that city.

THE BERLIN *Kladderadatsch*, or *Punch*, has been seized for the publication of a caricature against the deficit in the Prussian Budget.

THE NORTH GERMAN EMIGRANT-SHIP PALMERSTON, with 437 passengers, bound from Hamburg to New York, was, on Monday, towed into Plymouth Sound, in a leaky condition. For six days she had been in jeopardy, the persons on board—both men and women—having been compelled to work at the pumps.

THE PROSPECTS OF THE GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY are brightening. It got out of Chancery on Wednesday, the receiver being discharged, and the guardianship of the Marquis of Salisbury being substituted for the paternal care of the Lord Chancellor.

THE WIFE OF A POOR CABDRIVER, of 35, Prebend-street, Camden Town, has given birth to three children, under the following peculiar circumstances:—One was born on the 5th, one on the 6th, and a third on the 8th. The poor woman, who was attended by two surgeons, is progressing favourably.

A RAKISH-LOOKING CRAFT arrived at Queenstown last week, from Labrador, with the unusual appellation of "The Devil," and has for a figure-head a full-sized representation of his Satanic Majesty. When entering the harbour an exciting contest took place between her and the Cunard mail-tender Jackal, resulting in the defeat of "The Devil."

THE LONDON COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL REFORM UNION have announced that they will pay a reward of £100 to any person giving such information as will lead to the conviction of parties guilty of intimidation, bribery, or attempting to bribe voters at either county or borough elections. The Union also announces that it is prepared to prosecute in any case, without reference to the politics of the party infringing this law.

A COLLISION occurred on the South Wales Railway last week, which has resulted in the death of four persons and the destruction of a large number of cattle. The mail-train overtook a cattle-train near a station called Bullo-Pill, smashed up several trucks, and killed the guard and three drovers in charge of the cattle. The Coroner's jury, in giving a verdict of "Accidental death," recommended that a system of communication should be established between the driver and the guard of goods-trains.

THE MOVEMENT MADE IN HUNTINGDONSHIRE and the neighbourhood for a testimonial to General Peel, on his retirement from public life, appears to have been very successful. Nearly £1000 has been already subscribed. The list of contributors comprises the Earl of Sandwich for £100, Mr. T. Baring, M.P., for £100, and Mr. E. Fellowes, M.P., for £50. The fund raised will be expended in the purchase of a service of plate, which will be presented to General Peel at a public dinner at Huntingdon.

THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY held their first meeting for the autumnal season on Monday evening. The inaugural address was delivered by Sir Roderick Murchison, who warmly congratulated his hearers on the intelligence which lately reached this country respecting the progress made by Dr. Livingstone. The Queen of Holland was present at the gathering.

QUEEN ISABELLA AND HER CONSORT have arrived in Paris, and taken up their residence in the Pavillon Rohan, nearly opposite to the gates of the Tuilleries. Before their departure from Pau the ex-Queen and her Consort addressed a joint letter to the Prefect, in which they thanked him personally for his attentions to them during their stay, and expressed "the most affectionate gratitude towards the inhabitants of that noble land of France which had given them so many proofs of consideration and respect."

A FORCE OF 600 MEN, which the Portuguese authorities had sent into the interior of Mozambique against a "ferocious black chief," has been surprised and routed, only forty-seven men and eight officers escaping, and the artillery and stores being captured. A fresh expedition, on a larger scale, is accordingly to be sent out by the Portuguese Government.

AN JURY was fined 5*s.* and costs, at the Liverpool Police Court, last Saturday, for assaulting the Rev. John Noble, Curate of St. Titus's Church, in that town. The rev. gentleman was visiting in the district where the defendant lived, and inquired of her what place of worship she attended. She replied by giving him several blows on the side of the head, finishing by "flooding" him, much to his chagrin and annoyance.

M. GREUTER, an Ultramontane member of the Austrian Reichsrath, produced great sensation in the Chamber by a speech which he delivered against the abuse of the liberty of the press. He spoke vehemently against the newspapers calling the Queen of Spain "Madame Isabella," and added, "I suppose we shall soon have them saying 'Mr. Francis Joseph.'" The members of the Centre and Left retired from the Chamber, after giving expression to their dissatisfaction.

THE SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW is to commence, at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Monday, Dec. 7, and will continue open during the four following days. The Earl of Hardwicke is the president for the year; and amongst the prominent members of the club are the Dukes of Marlborough and Richmond; Earls Leicester, Powis, and Spencer; Viscount Bridport, and Lords Berners, Tredegar, and Walsingham. The aggregate amount of the prizes is £2300.

LORD MAYO, in a farewell address to the electors of Cockermonth, before leaving for India, says:—"Splendid as is the post, and difficult as will be my duties, I go forth in full confidence, and hope God will give me such strength and wisdom as will enable me to direct the government of India in the interest and for the welfare of the millions committed to our care. In the performance of the great task I ask no favour; let me be judged according to my actions; but I know that efforts honestly made for the maintenance of our national honour, for the spread of civilisation, and the preservation of peace, will always command the sympathy and support of my countrymen."



## THE LOUNGER.

THE Parliament of 1865 is dissolved. On Wednesday 65 gentlemen had the right to have M.P. tacked to their names; on Thursday there was not an M.P. in the three kingdoms. And now what can we say of the deceased Parliament? You and I knew it well. We had a good deal to do with it, Mr. Editor—I, perhaps, more than you; for I was more immediately in contact with it. Well, my opinion of this Parliament is by no means unfavourable. Indeed, it was to my mind the best Parliament that we have had for many years, and far away better than the Parliament of 1859, which immediately preceded that which has just died. The Parliament of 1859 was never a good Parliament; and at last it got to be so spiritless, so decrepit, that everybody was glad when it departed this life. Much of this was owing to its leader, who, instead of leading it onwards and ever onwards, sat on it like a vampire and sucked out its life. Nevertheless, it did, in spite of its leader, some notable things. It passed the French treaty, rather unwillingly though; it repealed the paper duty; it kept certain mad-headed statesmen from recognising the Southern Confederacy, and it enabled Gladstone to sweep away some hundreds of customs duties. But still it was not, on the whole, a good Parliament; and at last it got to be very supine, sluggish, and stupid. The Parliament of 1865 was from the first much better than its predecessor. It was stronger in intellectual power, on the whole; I say on the whole, because the Parliament of 1859 had some, at least two, very notable men in it that were not, alas! and could not be, in the Parliament just dissolved—to wit, Richard Cobden and Sir George Cornewall Lewis. Sir George died in 1863, Cobden in 1865, just before the dissolution of the Parliament of 1859. In estimating the intellectual power of the late Parliament as compared with its predecessor, we must leave out of consideration these two exceptionally strong men. It would seem to strangers but little acquainted with the inner life of the House of Commons a difficult thing to prove that the Parliament just dead was intellectually stronger than the one which immediately preceded it. This, however, arises from the fact that the new intellectual power was spread over a wide surface. Nevertheless, there were a few stars of more or less brilliancy. There was John Stuart Mill, of whom Mr. Bright once said, after hearing the member for Westminster speak, "He will make the English Parliament respected all over Europe." There was, too, Mr. Torrens McCullagh, a very able man; Professor Fawcett, high above the level; Thomas Hughes, whom Lambeth has rejected, to the lasting disgrace of Lambeth; Lord William Hay, a man but little known, because he has lived the best part of his life in India, but a very able man, and an excellent speaker; and I think I ought to mention Mr. Winterbottom, for, though he was a member for only one Session, and did not speak more than twice or thrice, he undoubtedly proved that there is good stuff in him. But, leaving the subject, I may further say there was life in the late Parliament. It was not sluggish, inert, apathetic, like the Parliament of 1859.

I don't know that I can say much in praise of the morality of the late Parliament. Under this heading, the House of Commons must be divided into two parties, and each party must be taken separately. Surely the Liberal party sounded a high moral tone when the Conservatives, helped by those wretched Adullamites, defeated Gladstone. They could have withdrawn the measure, and kept their seats probably for years; but Gladstone struck a lofty tone. He had been defeated on what he considered a vital question, and he and his Government promptly retired. He would not compromise his honour. I do not think that all his people followed him into the shade without grumbling; but the great bulk of them, I believe, applauded him, and I am sure that now all see that what he did was both morally and politically right. Charles James Fox once said that nothing that is morally wrong can be politically right, and this axiom has once more been confirmed. I think, then, we may say that the morality of the Liberal party in the late Parliament is not to be impeached.

But what can be said of the morality of the other party? Obviously, the less that is said the better for them. It looks dark enough now; but when the noise of party strife shall have subsided and the dust of the conflict shall have been all blown away, and when the future historian shall calmly turn his searching light into it, I am persuaded it will look blacker still. These men were chosen to defend a citadel. They began by ceding voluntarily to the enemy its outworks, and then, one by one, delivered up, often upon a mere show of assault, every part of the citadel. And why did they do this? There can be but one reason. They did it that they might keep their offices, with the profits, emoluments, and patronage and honours thereof. This is very sad. I heard a distinguished statesman in the Liberal ranks say, "From my heart, I am sorry to see it. I would rather have had Reform postponed for years than have received it at the expense of such utter demoralisation of a great party as this;" and so would every honest man. An honest Conservative opposition is a great good; but a dishonest Conservative party is utterly powerless for good, as the Conservative party will soon discover. Samson is shorn of his locks. Well, there is one consolation for all honest men. The punishment is coming. Nemesis has already got the sinners in his relentless grip, and in little more than a month will shake them out of their offices, with all those profits, and emoluments, and honours, for which they bartered their principles.

There will be no working men in the new Parliament. I do not see a chance for one. This is a pity, for I hold that no man can properly represent a class unless he belongs to it. There are such deep gulfs between classes in this and, I suspect, every European country. True, men pass from one class to the other, from the lower to the higher, but rarely, if ever, to the highest. But when a man passes from a low to a high class he is generally stricken with a loss of memory. Disraeli has quite forgotten that he was once an attorney's clerk, but unquestionably he was. Between the very high class and the middle and low—not to say the lowest—class there is a chasm deep and broad as Tophet. If you were to tell almost any great Duke that you and I eat nothing but cabbage and potatoes, out of a wooden bowl, with our fingers, depend upon it he would believe it. Why not? How should he know any better? If he were told that you and I dined at Greenwich this year—as we did, you will remember—and drank our claret, he would think his informant was quizzing him. Now, if half a dozen first-class artisans who could speak well, as many artisans can, were to get into Parliament, it would be a good step towards teaching our aristocracy something about the habits, manners, customs, &c., of the people around them—say as much as they know of the Athenian and Roman people. But the presence of working men in this Parliament is hopeless; but it will come. Their enfranchisement is new to the artisans at present. The general election took them by surprise. They had no time to reflect and organise. But they can organise—no class so well—and they will; and in future Parliaments, perhaps the next, they will, in some of the manufacturing districts, be able to carry their men.

The war rages everywhere, and nowhere more fiercely than it does at Brighton. The old members are assailed on all sides. First, there is Conyngham, who calls himself a Radical. Then there is Mr. Moor, who is a Conservative, but will vote for the disestablishment of the Irish Church. Next comes Mr. Ashbury, a Conservative—albeit, about a fortnight ago he was a candidate for admission into the Reform Club! Two others, Bashford and Peek (Conservatives), have, I learn, retired. The old members are—Heaven preserve their lungs!—stumping it every night, and seem to be inspired. There was in one of Mr. White's speeches a capital sketch of Disraeli's Government by himself, extracted from one of his speeches made twenty-seven years ago, at Shrewsbury, worth reproducing. Here it is:—"A weak and unprincipled Administration, which, baffled in all their attempts to continue in office in defiance of Parliament and the country, are now seeking to array the various classes of the community, whose interests are, in fact, identical, in a factious hostility, founded on delusive misrepresentations." This is good;

and here is something of Mr. White's own, which ought not to be allowed to die. I wish it had been said in Parliament. "Mr. Bashford tells you that the maintenance of the Irish Church is the best security for toleration. I must avow my repugnance to the ordinary use of that word 'toleration.' To tolerate a thing, what is it but to bear or suffer what may be scarcely allowable or excusable, but which, like many grievous and bitter things in the life of man, must be endured, because they are not removable or punishable by law? Again: what is this toleration? In the party tolerating, is it not an insolent assumption of superiority to which it is not justly entitled? And to the party tolerated, is it not an indignity and a social stigma to which it is not justly liable, if there be—as there should be—an absolute equality in civil and religious liberty?"

It seems that in mentioning Mr. Cooper's "magic flowers" in your last week's Number I was unwittingly running the risk of being mixed up in that most disagreeable and bitter of all contentions—a quarrel between rival inventors. Mr. Thomas B. Robinson, of Church-road, Islington, writes to say that Mr. Cooper's "magic flowers" are "crude imitations of an invention of mine, for which I hold Royal Letters Patent." Mr. Robinson's invention is called "toy flowers," and was brought out in 1867, and had, it seems, a large sale then. He has now introduced some "improvements in picotees for the present season." Of course, I do not pretend to judge on whose side is the right in this dispute between Messrs. Robinson and Cooper. I only state such facts as happen to come under my notice; but, had I known there was a dispute, I certainly should not have said a word about either invention. My only object in mentioning Mr. Cooper's flowers was to call public attention to what appeared to me to be a pretty and interesting toy. Both parties have now had the benefit of publicity in your columns, the public may choose between the productions of both, and I have done with the business.

## THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

## THE MAGAZINES.

*Scientific Opinion* is another new comer. It is a weekly periodical, which proposes to record scientific progress at home and abroad; and I notice that it is perfectly impartial in its selections. It is a striking fact that we move so fast in these days that a weekly record of progress in science should be possible, with the certainty of plenty of novel material arising. There is no padding in *Scientific Opinion*—it is all matter of solid interest.

I think I have before said that *Temple Bar* is now a really well-edited serial. The painful papers entitled "Six Months in the Prisons of England" are continued in the present number, and I hope they will arrest attention. In "Women and their Saviours" (an intelligent paper) there is a small error on page 500—Milton was *three*, not merely twice, married.

In the *Gentleman's Magazine* the sensation paper is an account, by a lady, of a visit to a ladies' swimming-bath. But are ladies really so vain among each other when no gentlemen are present? The only thing I can call to mind that gives you the same kind of sensation as this article is a picture of a ladies' gymnasium, by Mr. De Maurier, which appeared in *Punch's Almanack* for the year before last.

The *Student and Intellectual Observer* is, as usual, very good. In his "Womankind" papers Mr. Wright has got as far as the fourteenth century. There are some striking coloured illustrations—Saturn, with his ring, and one or two others—besides plain engravings.

In the *St. James's* both the current stories, "A Life's Assize" and "Hirell," move forward attractively: there is something very peculiar about "Hirell," as well as very pleasant. "Cut down like Grass" speaks for itself in the title. Everybody enjoys a smart, bold parody.

In the *London* there is good writing by Mr. Tom Hood, Mr. Palgrave Simpson, and others; and the "School for Ballet-Girls" is interesting. But, on the whole, the number is amateurish. The last line of page 61 has got lifted to the top of page 64. I confess I like the little venture; but there is too much of the theatre in it, unless—which is not announced or directly disclosed—it be intended to make the serial decidedly theatrical as a rule. I think there is room for a good magazine devoted to the arts of amusement, but it must be laboriously edited—upon a plan. I once saw a very good serial story in this magazine, but the present number certainly wants a plan.

Peculiar interest attaches to Part VII. of Messrs. Ward and Lock's reissue of *Household Words*, for it contains the late Mrs. Browning's sonnet on the Greek Slave—just then contributed to Mr. Dickens by that divine woman, I suppose. It also contains some verses which I recognise as by Mr. Henry Morley. The reader will find them in his little book of "Fairy Tales," published by Messrs. Routledge and Co. In this same part is something else of deep interest—an appeal on behalf of Dr. Kinkel, the Prussian patriot, then in prison. Thank God! Doctor Kinkel escaped, and is now—or was, according to my latest information—well, and doing well, in England.

The *Leisure Hour* and the *Sunday at Home* rarely present anything remarkable for comment; but the former is always full of quiet readable matter, well illustrated. Some recently-published reminiscences by a young clergyman were very interesting.

In the *Victoria* the little autobiography, "Miriam Ponder" is often extremely felicitous. But, whatever difficulties the editor may sometimes have in getting up the magazine, it is too bad to admit such a paper as that on Mr. Longfellow! The two "poems," also, are unpardonable. Give us good extracts, with a few words of sensible comment to make them go down, rather than such stuff as these things.

I need not repeat, in noticing the second part of "England's Antiphon," edited by Dr. MacDonald, the words of admiration which your readers will remember. On page 176, line 11, the word "his" is explained as meaning "its." But "his" is a mere misprint for *this*. Surely, also, the "with," on line 2, page 214, is a copyist's or printer's error, however old an error? Of that, however, I am not at all confident. I only wish to call Mr. MacDonald's attention to what he says about Donne and Herrick—the flavour in (though not of) certain poetry of the former—in connection with what he said in Part I. about one of Spenser's "Amoretti." I am one of those who, to use his own words, think such poetry as Spenser's in that sonnet "religious affectation," founded upon the late decays of a mediæval mannerism. If Mr. MacDonald thinks otherwise, I cannot understand his condemnation of a certain flavour in Donne and Herrick. In an estuary, if the salt water runs into the fresh, the fresh will run into the salt. For my part I condemn the "flavour" in both cases, and it seems to me the only clearheaded thing to do.

## THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The dramatic author who undertakes to turn a long and complicated novel into a drama generally exposes himself to derision, both from those who have read the original work and those who know nothing whatever about it. Those who are familiar with the novel are exasperated at the liberties which the dramatist necessarily takes with its story in order to represent it in anything like a connected form on the stage; and those who are not familiar with the novel ridicule the incongruities which result from the unnatural compression which it has undergone before it can be presented to them with any approach to dramatic effect. In a piece of this class, careful development of character is almost out of the question. The spectator is hurried on from one striking incident to another with a rapidity which takes his breath away; he finds his favourite characters bud, blossom, and wither away in the course of a ten minutes' dialogue; events which occur in the original at lengthy intervals succeed one another without any interval whatever; marriages are arranged which the novel-writer never contemplated, and events which are barely hinted at in the novel become in many instances the most prominent features of the play: not because they assist to tell the story, but because they are calculated to awake the enthusiasm of the audience on the part of the scene-painter, the machinist, or the costumer.

Mr. Henry Neville's version of "Les Misérables," produced last Saturday, at the OLYMPIC THEATRE, under the title of "The Yellow Passport," is characterised by many of these defects. He adheres more closely to the original story than do many adapters of novels; but in doing so he has had to abandon any attempt at a consistent development of character, and the consequence is that the talents of Mr. Webster's excellent company are employed upon a piece which would be quite as well acted at the Surrey Theatre. The piece is a gross inconsistency throughout. We have a liberated convict, Jean Valjean, who prominently displays in the prologue his ticket of discharge, or "yellow passport," which testifies that he has every right to be at liberty; yet the four succeeding acts are expended in showing how busily the police are occupied in his recapture. Indeed, one scene is entirely taken up with the trial of an unfortunate boor who is mistaken by the police authorities for him. Yet this Jean Valjean has done nothing whatever (as far as the audience know) to bring him once more within the pale of the law. It is true that he steals some plate, in the first scene, from a Bishop who has given him shelter; but as the Bishop, in an astounding gush of self-sacrificing socialism, declines to prosecute, on the ground that the plate belongs to the robber as much as to himself, and, indeed, goes so far as to assure the police that he, the Bishop, actually presented the contents of his plate-basket to the ex-convict, that crime cannot be the ground of the extraordinary persecution to which he is subjected throughout the piece at the hands of Inspector Javert and his myrmidons. In point of fact, the crime for which, in the novel, he is really sought—the attack on the Savoyard, which occurs after his robbery of the Bishop's plate and before his accession to wealth and local dignity—is not so much as hinted at in the play. If Mr. Neville had omitted all allusion to the yellow passport and allowed his audience to suppose that his hero had escaped from prison before his time, this incongruity at least would not have appeared. The piece is not very carefully written. Sentences, such as "Your conduct was always unbearable, but now I can endure it no longer," occur more than once in the course of the dialogue, and the comic portions contain certain jokes and incidents which had much better be cut out. But much of the weakness of the repertee department is probably due to Mr. Atkins's irrepressible habit of enlivening the author's dialogue with his own "gag." The piece is not one that makes much demand upon the higher talents of the company that plays it. Mr. Neville plays the part of the convict as well as he plays Bob Brierly in "The Ticket-of-Leave Man," to which part, indeed, Jean Valjean bears, in the last four acts, a marked resemblance. To the picturesque roughness of the liberated convict in the first act, or prologue, he does the fullest justice. Mr. Horace Wigan plays a stage-detective of the usual type—a man who is described in the bills as "a man of stern probity, whose very name is a terror to criminals: he would have arrested his own father if he had found him escaping from justice;" at the same time a man who displays about as much sagacity at hunting down a thief as might be reasonably expected in an intelligent nursemaid. However, that is not Mr. Wigan's fault. He plays the part most artistically, but I could wish him a better wig. Miss Furtado has an emotional part to play. Here and there it makes a greater demand upon her physical power than she is able to honour, but in the quieter portions of the part she left nothing to be desired. The way in which she sang a "lullaby," when in a state of semi-consciousness, was exquisitely pathetic. A little girl, named Williams, played the part of a child of seven or eight years of age very prettily. The scenery is remarkable rather for its elaborate carpentry than for its artistic qualities. A scene in which a house is burnt down is very cleverly contrived. The "slow music," which drowns all the important passages in the piece, is irritating beyond endurance to the occupants of the stalls.

An old-fashioned ballet d'action, called "Beda," has been produced at DRURY LANE. As incident to this production, the dancing of Mdlle. Tournear may be favourably mentioned—as so the grotesqueries of Mr. Charles Lauri. But, as the main object of the management in bringing out the ballet is evidently to give the stock dresses a good airing before the production of pantomime at Christmas, it is only necessary to say that this object is effectually accomplished by the introduction of a procession a quarter of a mile in length.

## SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE AND THE IRISH CHURCH.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE, in a letter to the Hon. Mark Rolle further explains himself in the matter of his reported refusal to pledge himself against the disestablishment of the Irish Church. He says:—

It is true that when I was asked at Torrington to give what is called a pledge upon the subject I declined to do so. I have never given a pledge upon the hustings, and I never will do so, either upon this or any other question. I consider that it is the duty of a candidate to state his opinions, and this I have never shrunk from doing. Upon the question of the maintenance of the Irish Church Establishment I have, in the course of the last few weeks, stated mine at least a dozen times. But I consider it is equally a candidate's duty to refuse to give pledges as to what he will do under circumstances which he cannot foresee; and, as I should refuse to do so when honestly asked by a friend, much more did I refuse at Torrington, where the demand was made by an opponent, apparently with no other object than that of entangling me. My reason for writing as I did to Mr. Gladstone was that in two separate reports of his speech at Wigan (in the *Times* and the *Standard*) he was represented as having put into my mouth words which I not only never used, but which were as nearly as possible the direct contrary of those which I did use; and upon these, as it seemed, he founded an argument which would have had some force if I had really said what he was represented to have attributed to me. Thinking that he had been misled by some incorrect report, I wrote to set him right. He has since informed me that he was misreported, and that he in reality quoted my words correctly—namely, that I would not pledge myself under all circumstances to resist disestablishment. Upon this foundation Mr. Gladstone rests the charge that it does not appear that the maintaining of the Irish Church is really written in my purposes, my understanding, and my heart. I confess that, while I am perfectly indifferent as to the abuse of such authorities as Mr. Pym and the *Western Times*, I am both surprised and pained to find a man like Mr. Gladstone imputing to me lukewarmness, and even, as I read his speech, insincerity, upon a question on which I have never wavered for a moment, simply because I have given an answer to the subject of indefinite pledges, such as I firmly believe Mr. Gladstone himself or any other experienced statesman will admit to be Constitutional and right. I will only say, in conclusion, that I adhere firmly to the opinions which I have expressed in all my speeches during the canvass, that I regard the disestablishment of the Church in Ireland as an uncalculated, unstatesman-like, and dangerous measure, and that I shall resist it to the best of my power. At the same time I equally adhere to my refusal to give a general pledge, upon this or any other subject, as to what I will or will not do at any future time under circumstances which it is impossible for me to foresee.

## THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON IN COUNCIL.

OUR Engraving represents one of those ministerial councils, at which the Emperor presided, accompanied by the Empress, several of which were held at St. Cloud immediately after the return of the Court from Biarritz. No doubt, very important matters were discussed at these meetings; but all parties concerned seem to have well kept their own counsel, for, as a Paris journal naïvely remarks, "nothing has transpired as to what were the topics discussed or the decisions come to." Our readers will be able to distinguish the several Ministers from the inscriptions we have placed under their portraits.

AN INTERESTING ANTIQUARIAN DISCOVERY has just been made in Hanover. Some soldiers, in digging a trench at Hildesheim, found about fifty vases, cups, candelabra, and other objects, in massive silver, and richly chased; they are evidently the work of Greek artists, and apparently date from the time of Augustus. Among them is a goblet, with ornaments in relief, representing Hercules strangling two serpents; and a second, with satyrs, bacchantes, and other similar figures.

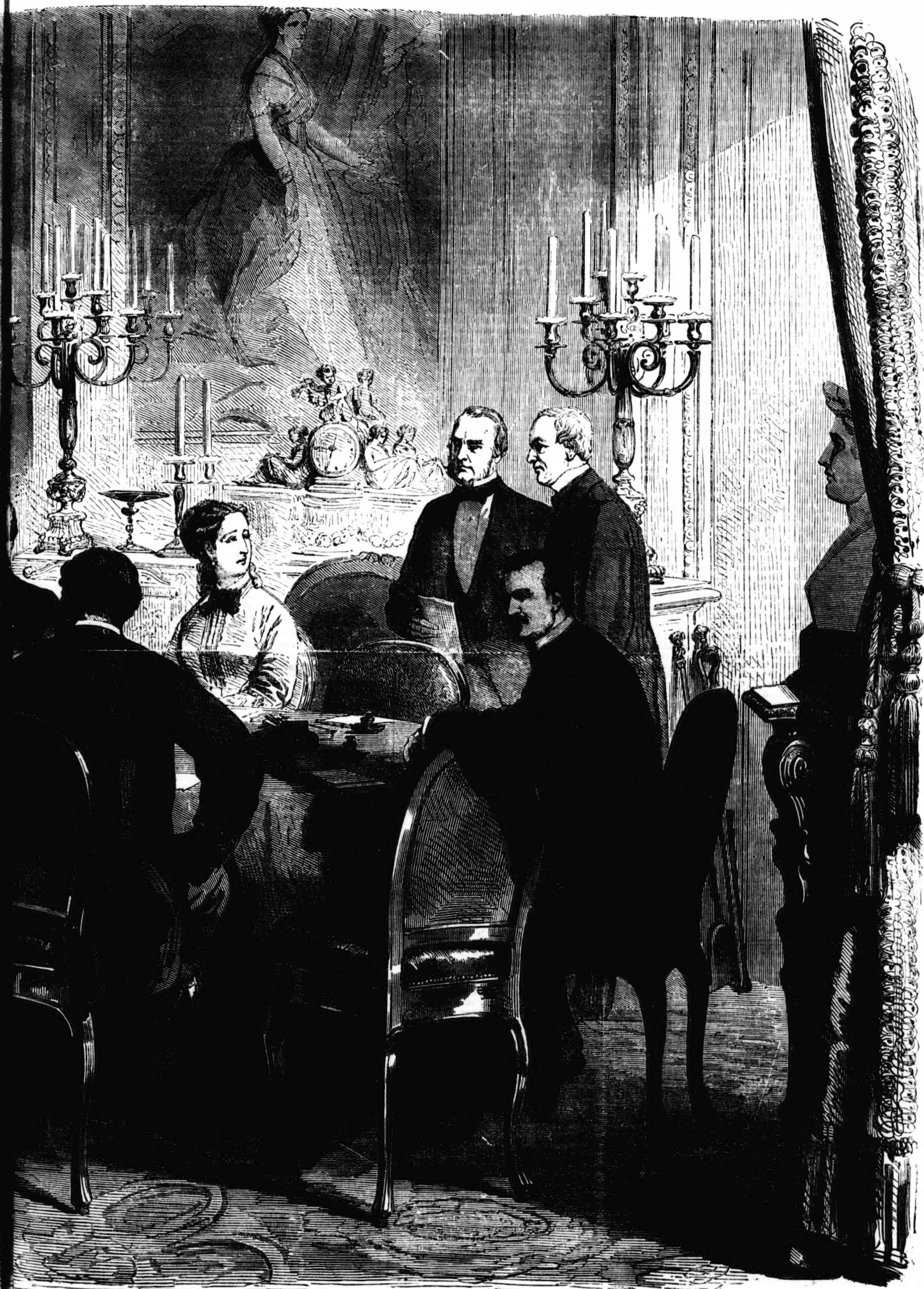




*Guillaume Hanet*

M. ROUBER. M. DURUY. M. PINARD. ADMIRAL RIGAUD DE GENOUILLY. M. BARCQ. MARSHAL VAILLANT. MARSHAL NIEL. THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON PRESIDING AT





THE EMPRESS.

M. VUITRY.

M. MAGNE.

M. DE FORCADE LA ROQUETTE.

M. DE MOUSTIER.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AT ST. CLOUD.



## LORD MAYOR'S DAY.

LORD MAYOR'S DAY, falling this year on a Monday, and the weather being tolerably fine for November, attracted a greater crowd to the streets than probably ever had been witnessed before on a similar occasion. The pageant was produced with good taste, and passed off with admirable regularity. The main avenues, both east and west, began to fill at a very early hour, the short lines of railway helping to swell the crowd by giving facilities for remote Brixton on the one side, and far-away Paddington on the other, to come into town and assist at the revels. The start of the civic dignitaries had been fixed for half-past one; but it was nearly two before the crowd in the main streets were made aware of its being on the move by the preliminary charge of the police, which was necessary to clear the course. The people fell back cheerfully, although with great difficulty, so densely were they packed; and cheered vociferously as every successive feature of the pageant attracted their attention. As the procession passed along through Cannon-street and towards Ludgate-hill, the crowd became denser than ever, assuming quite the proportions of the gathering that, some years since, welcomed a Royal bride and bridegroom into London. All the windows were filled with spectators, the housetops were covered with people, flags and banners fluttered in the air, and there were everywhere music and cheering, and hustling, and, we grieve to add, in many places, rough assaults and considerable picking of pockets.

Just as the gilt coach had fairly entered the "Lydgate" the rain commenced falling; and the crowd, perhaps put out of temper by the circumstance, commenced hissing violently as the carriage of the outgoing Lord Mayor was recognised. The new Lord Mayor was most vociferously cheered; and we could see, by the heaving and swinging of the state coach, that his Lordship was making praiseworthy attempts to acknowledge the compliment which was being paid him. A general cry of "Music!" was raised; and, a happy thought having inspired the bandmaster of the Engineers, the procession moved majestically away westward to the strains of "Tommy Dadd," ten thousand voices joining in the chorus of that popular air. The time occupied in getting through the Strand and down to Westminster Hall was considerably less than that which had been occupied in threading the narrow streets of the city. There was a critical moment, of course, passed in squeezing through Temple Bar; but after that it was all plain sailing to Palace yard, where the crowd had again assumed enormous proportions, and where the brilliant confusion of colours and classes, coaches and cabs, police (horse and foot), lancers, running footmen, watermen, and general public, formed collectively one of those kaleidoscopic pictures which can only be seen in a great capital, and on the occasion of an important ceremonial.

Perhaps one of the most striking features on a crowded Lord Mayor's Day is the appearance of the multitude who come to see and not to be seen. As the procession passes, along they close in behind the last carriage, and present a waving sea of caps, bonnets, greasy caps, "billy-cock" hats, and bare heads, all knocking about and against each other, like the wooden balls in an American washing-machine, and seeming to be put in motion by some violent action of the works underneath. Women with babies in their arms may be seen floating helplessly along, roughs snatch at bonnets and earrings, pugnacious pairs attempt to settle their differences *ri-et-armis*, and the whole street seems to be on the verge of revolution. But it all passes on and away. New crowds come, enact the same pantomime, and disappear. The civic procession of this year was a grand success, and the countless thousands who witnessed it testified to the fact in shouts of approbation. It seemed as if there was quite a reaction in the popular mind from the despair and indignation of last year's Lord Mayor's Day, and that the crowd were delighted to see their old gilt coach, and their tottering bannermen, and their sword-bearer, and their beaules, and all the rest of their time-honoured City pageantry restored once more to their pristine magnificence.

The speeches at the banquet were invested with more than the usual interest. First came an announcement from Mr. Reverdy Johnson to the effect that all causes of disquietude between Great Britain and the United States had now entirely ceased, and that this announcement would be made in a more official and formal manner in the course of a few days. Then the Prime Minister, in a speech of considerable length, reminded his hearers that his expressions of confidence in the preservation of peace, uttered at that table a few months ago, had been fully borne out by facts. With respect to the statement of the American Minister, Mr. Disraeli said that not only had modern differences been healed, but ancient causes of dispute had also been removed. Touching on home affairs, the right hon. gentleman, without entering into details, had perfect confidence in the good sense of the constituencies, and he hoped to have the honour of returning thanks on behalf of her Majesty's Ministers next year. On the question of the Irish Church he expressed the decided hostility of the Government to the policy of the Liberal party. Mr. Gathorne Hardy trusted that the elections would be conducted peaceably, and that the national verdict might be decisive as well as advantageous to the country's interests.

**MR. J. S. MILL ON THE INCOME TAX.**—The following letter on the income tax on incomes below £150 per annum has been received by an elector of St. James's, Westminster:—"Blackheath Park, Kent, Nov. 5, 1868.—Dear Sir,—As a good opportunity did not present itself at the meeting yesterday evening for answering your questions, I now answer them by letter. The first question you ask raises a difficulty which will exist at whatever sum we fix the limit to the income tax; for, whether the tax begins at £100, at £200, or at £300, that sum will represent a larger real means of support in some places than in others. But I am very much disposed to think that the limit of £100 is too low, and that it would be an improvement to make the income tax begin at £150 (as it did at first), if not higher. If all taxation were direct, it ought to come down to the limit of income just sufficient for the necessities of life, and everyone ought to pay in proportion to the surplus of income he possesses beyond those mere necessities. But, so long as the larger part of our revenue is raised by indirect taxation, on articles of almost universal consumption, and of which the poor consume more, in proportion to their small means, than the rich, so long I think that the incomes between £50 and £150, or £200, pay more than their fair share of indirect taxation; and this requires to be made up to them by levying a tax on the higher incomes from which they should be exempt. In answer to your second question, my opinion is that, in justice, the same amount of income should pay the same amount of tax, whether it be a fixed annual income or a variable sum paid weekly. But it would be extremely difficult to check fraudulent concealment of income in the latter case.—Yours, very faithfully, J. S. MILL.—James Edwards, Esq.

**FEMALE SUFFRAGE.**—On Monday morning the Court of Common Pleas gave judgment in an appeal from Manchester affecting the right of women to be placed upon the Parliamentary register. The judges, who gave their decisions separately, were unanimous in the opinion that there was no sufficient authority for saying that by the common law women had a right to vote for members of Parliament. On the other hand, there was the uninterrupted practice of centuries to show that women had not voted. In the opinion of Chief Justice Bovill, the Reform Act of 1867, in saying that men should vote, although considered in conjunction with Sir John Romilly's Act, did not entitle women to vote. The term "men" in the Reform Act did not include women; and even if it did, then women would come within the term "incapacitated." Mr. Justice Byles, in expressing his concurrence, hoped that the unanimous decision of the Court, coming so soon after the undivided judgment of the Court of Session in Scotland, would for ever lay the ghost of a doubt which should never have arisen.

**THE DINNER QUESTION AT CAMBRIDGE.**—It has already been stated that at Sidney College the bachelors and undergraduates have determined to absent themselves from hall until the whole system of college dinner provision is superseded. Complaints exist at various colleges, and the example of the Sidney men is being followed. At some of the colleges the objection is to the price, at others to the quality, of the provisions, and at some to both. The practice of the objectors is to assemble, bear grace, so as not to subject themselves to penalties for absence, and then to leave on massé, and proceed to dine at their lodgings or the various hotels. The Sidney men have thus left every day since Monday last. On Saturday they sent in a petition or remonstrance to the Rev. the Master, who replied that he regarded absence from hall as a breach of discipline, but on their return he would interfere in the question and consider their statements. The undergraduates then had a meeting, and decided that they would dine in hall no more this term. At St. Catherine's a meeting was held on Saturday evening to consider the price and inferior quality of the dinners given there. It was decided that a deputation should lay the matter before the steward and other steps be taken to ensure better dinners for the future.

## THE FANCY BREAD QUESTION.

(From the "Daily News.")

WHAT is "fancy" bread? For years this question has been a fertile source of contention between our bakers and their customers, "fancy" bread being specially exempted from the operation of the Act of Parliament requiring all bread sold within ten miles of the Royal Exchange to be weighed at the time of sale. The precise words of the Act are as follow:—"Nothing in this Act shall extend or be construed to extend to prevent or hinder any such baker or seller of bread from selling bread usually sold under the denomination of French or fancy bread, or rolls, without previously weighing the same. Another Act regulates 'the assize and making of bread' in the country. The alleged violation of the former Act—known as the 3rd Geo. IV., cap. 106 sec. 4—has long constituted a leading grievance of the poor, who complain, with much bitterness, that the various charges of selling unweighed bread which have from time to time been heard before the magistrates, both in town and country, have invariably fallen to the ground, it being decided, in almost every case, that the bread thus sold, being of a "fancy" description, was exempt from the operation of the Act. To some extent the term "Fancy" or "French" bread is a misnomer. In France there are numerous kinds of bread, each differing more or less in the description of materials used and the mode of preparation. In England, on the contrary, the various kinds of bread are all made of the same ingredients; the difference consisting, generally, in the shape given to the loaves and the manner in which they are baked. "French" and "cottage" loaves are crusted all over, because they have been baked separate from each other; whereas the ordinary or "batch" loaves, being baked together, are crusted only at top and bottom. The former kinds are usually made of the finest flour; the latter with the same flour mixed with other flour of an inferior quality. At the time the Act above mentioned was passed the fancy kinds of bread were less extensively sold than at present, the bread then in common use being made of inferior materials and largely adulterated; but since the repeal of the corn laws, and the subsequent abundance of wheaten food, the coarser qualities of bread have almost disappeared from the market, and there now exists, so far as the mere materials are concerned, little difference between the various descriptions of bread, fancy or otherwise, ordinarily sold, except in the particular modes of preparation and baking. The statute, in fact, applies to a condition of things no longer existing. At present the real difference between what the bakers designate "ordinary" bread, and that to which they give the name of "fancy" bread, is so slight as to be extremely difficult of definition, the cost of labour and materials seldom being greater in one case than in the other. Indeed, since the introduction of machinery, the actual cost of making the better descriptions of bread has become less than that formerly incurred in producing the commoner kinds.

Before the repeal of the corn laws, the high price of wheat led, as before mentioned, to the use of inferior kinds of flour in the manufacture of common bread, the better descriptions of flour being reserved for making "French," "cottage," and other fancy loaves, which at that time were beyond the reach of the poor, being, in reality, exceptional and comparatively expensive forms of bread manufacture. Sometimes, for the purpose of enabling them to evade the law, the bakers would introduce into the dough a few currants or caraway seeds, thereby converting the loaves into so many quasi cakes; but of late years this device has become less and less resorted to, especially since it has been judicially decided that all bread baked in tins belongs to the "fancy" denomination, and is therefore beyond the scope of the Act. This ruling forms one of the seeming legal anomalies which perplex and irritate the labouring-class mind. The bread made at home by London working people is invariably baked in tins; and the artisans cannot understand why the same kind of bread, made and baked in precisely the same manner, when sold by the baker, should be denominated "fancy" bread, and become exempt from the obligation of being weighed. They naturally consider it a gross injustice, of which they are the helpless victims. In some country places the existence of the Bread Act is ignored, the bakers, with rare exceptions, refusing to sell their bread in any case by weight. This at times leads to a great outcry. Then the rural police step in; a baker or two is fined; but, after a few months have slipped by, the old system is reverted to, and things become as bad as they were at first.

Practically, the labourers in such places have no redress. Some years ago there was a dispute in Leicester, on which occasion a number of loaves were purchased of the different bakers in the town, each loaf being marked with the name of the shop at which it was procured. The loaves were afterwards weighed in presence of a great public meeting, and nearly all found more or less deficient in weight, some to a most shameful extent. A similar test has occasionally been applied in other towns. In the case recently heard in the Westminster Police Court a loaf which should have weighed 2 lb. was found to be 7½ oz. short. This will afford an idea of the extent to which customers may be defrauded. In the case of a labouring family it really signifies one or two loaves less than the proper share per week for family consumption. Assuming that each of the 3,000,000 inhabitants of the metropolis were to be defrauded to the extent of 2 oz. of bread per day, it would amount to the value of £1,500,000 per annum. This shows how the rise of a penny in the price of bread may be a matter of life or death to thousands of the poor.

In the metropolis the non-weighing system is generally carried on in tally-shops and establishments of a similar character. The majority of metropolitan bakers invariably weigh their bread, whether ordinary or cottage—the French bread forming the exception. Competition compels them to study the interests of their customers. To sell ordinary or cottage bread otherwise than by full weight would ensure its own punishment in the shape of loss of custom. The system of non-weighing is chiefly adopted by those bakers whose business depends less on ready money than on long credit transactions. The customer who is largely indebted to his baker must frequently be content to accept the particular kind of bread the baker chooses to supply him with. It is the same in the case of the tally-shops, the great provision-emporiums of the artisans, where the customers, being too often irrefragably in the debt of the shopkeepers, are completely at their mercy, and dare not complain of the gross frauds and extortions to which they are daily subjected. The bread sold in these places is generally adulterated most vilely, besides being deficient in weight. In order to render it as heavy as possible, it is usually withdrawn from the oven before it is properly baked—a proceeding which certainly does not add to its wholesomeness. Nay, it is asserted by scientific men that bread thus baked is in nowise heavier than bread properly baked. If this be true, nothing is gained by the practice. It is difficult to devise an efficient remedy. In some places the establishment of co-operative stores has had the effect of checking, for a time, the practices complained of; but with the failures of the stores bad bread and short weight have speedily again become the rule. If the present Act of Parliament were amended to the effect that every kind of bread should be sold by weight, perhaps one of the difficulties with which magistrates have to contend in such cases as that heard at Westminster would be removed. At any rate, if the Act is to remain in force, it ought to be rendered as efficient as possible. Fancy biscuits are sold by weight, and why not fancy bread?

**ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES.**—The convention between England and the United States for the settlement of outstanding claims was signed on Tuesday. Article 4 of the treaty runs thus:—"The Commissioners shall have power to adjudicate upon the class of claims referred to in the official correspondence between the two Governments as the Alabama claims; but before any of such claims are taken into consideration by them, the two high contracting parties shall fix upon some Sovereign or head of a friendly State as an arbitrator in respect of such claims, to whom such class of claims shall be referred, in case the Commissioners shall be unable to come to a unanimous decision upon the same."

## THE ELECTIONS.

**DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT.**—On Wednesday evening a supplement to the *London Gazette* was issued, containing a Royal proclamation for the dissolution of the Parliament called by Lord Palmerston in 1865, and summoning its successor for Thursday, Dec. 10. Proclamation is also made for the election of sixteen representative peers of Scotland. Up to the time of the assembly of the last Parliament it was customary to allow a week to elapse between the formal opening and the delivery of the Royal Speech. Thus, in 1857, Parliament met on April 30, and the swearing in of members was continued until May 7; in 1859 both Houses assembled on May 31, and the Royal speech was delivered on June 7. In 1866, however, the swearing in was conducted more rapidly, and Parliament, having assembled on Thursday, Feb. 1, was opened by her Majesty on the following Tuesday. The next Parliament is called also on a Thursday, the speech from the throne will in all probability be delivered on Tuesday, Dec. 15, and that night, with those of the Thursday and Friday following, may decide the fate of the Government. The writs for the election of members to the new Parliament were forwarded through the Post Office on Wednesday night. Most of the borough nominations will take place on Monday, and the polling on the following day. The county elections will not be completed until the end of the month.

The following nominations have been fixed:—East Riding of Yorkshire—Tuesday, the 24th; North Riding of Yorkshire—Monday, the 23rd. City of London: Monday, the 23rd; polling on the 24th. East Kent: Monday, the 16th; polling on Thursday, the 19th; declaration, Saturday, the 21st. Mid Kent: Wednesday, the 18th. West Kent: Friday, the 20th; polling on Monday, the 23rd; declaration, Wednesday, the 25th. Windsor: Monday, the 16th; polling on the 17th. Liverpool: Tuesday, the 17th; polling on the 18th. Birkenhead: Monday, the 16th; polling on the 17th. West Worcester: Wednesday, the 18th. Bewdley: Monday, the 16th; polling on the 17th. Kidderminster: Tuesday, the 17th; polling on the 18th. Cambridge County: Saturday, the 21st; polling on Tuesday, the 24th. Cambridge Borough: Monday, the 16th; polling on Tuesday, the 17th. Worcester City: Monday, the 16th; polling on the 17th. East Worcester: Friday, the 20th. Droitwich: Monday, the 16th; polling on the 17th. Exeter: Monday, the 16th; polling on the 17th.

**COUNTY ELECTIONS.**—By a recent Act an election in counties can take place in four days after the holding of the court at which proclamation is made to "elect a knight or knights to serve in Parliament." It was formerly "six days" after the proclamation.

**POLLING-BOOTH.**—By the new Registration Act (31 and 32 Vict., c. 58) the law has been amended. The provision in the Act of William IV. has been repealed, and it is now enacted "that the polling-booths at each polling-place shall be so divided and arranged in compartments by the Sheriff or other returning officer that not more than 500 electors shall be allotted to poll at each compartment."

**THE CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT.**—The Corrupt Practices Act is not unlikely to prove a formidable engine of political warfare during the approaching elections. In the borough of Youghal Sir Joseph M'Kenna, who stands upon the independent principles of a Catholic Tory knighted by the Government of Mr. Disraeli, is opposed by Mr. Christopher Weguelin, a Gladstonian Liberal. The battle, it is said, is going against Sir Joseph M'Kenna, who has the honour of being the first to use the Corrupt Practices Act as a kind of petard. His solicitors have written to two of the leading Liberal electors in the borough to inform them that proceedings will be taken against them under the Act. It is added that, whether those proceedings will be of a merely civil character for the penalties prescribed in the statute, or criminal proceedings, has not yet been decided by the counsellors of Sir Joseph M'Kenna. The electors who have been thus attacked have sent the letters of Sir Joseph M'Kenna's solicitors to the local papers.

**MR. BRIGHT AT BIRMINGHAM.**—On Tuesday evening Mr. Bright addressed a large meeting of gun manufacturers in the Townhall, Birmingham. The hon. gentleman, who spoke for upwards of an hour, devoted a considerable portion of his speech to the question of the national expenditure, and pointed out the difficulties under which a private member laboured in his endeavours to reduce the items in the estimates. He advocated the adoption of a new system, by which the framing of the estimates should be taken out of the hands of the Horse Guards, the Admiralty, and the Cabinet, and placed under the control of a Committee of the House of Commons.

## AN ODD ARGUMENT.

It is remarkable how often we find clever speakers who are arguing a bad case—particularly when they happen to be lawyers—grasping at illustrations which, from some hasty misconception, they imagine to be favourable to their view, but which are in truth (though for the moment they miss the real adaptation) terribly hostile to it. This is the only way in which we can interpret the singular *lapsus* which Mr. Gathorne Hardy seems to have committed in his speech at Maidstone. He was labouring very hard to excuse the Protestant Church of Ireland for not having converted more Romanists. And the following is the very rash argument which he is reported to have made use of for the purpose.

The Protestants, he thinks, have somewhat increased in proportion to the Romanists in Ireland, but would have done so more decidedly had they not been afraid to avow their conversion.

I believe (he adds) it can be found that if the Roman Catholics who emigrate from Ireland had continued to be Roman Catholics when they had got out of the reach of that depressing and deterring influence exercised over them by the priests in their native country—if they had all remained Roman Catholics in the United States of America, instead of turning merely their present number, they would be double that number. It is a remarkable fact that, although there has been an enormous emigration of Roman Catholics from Ireland, the Roman Catholics at present in the United States do not amount to anything like the same number, but are much less. And why is that? Do you not think it is true, as many persons assert, that numbers of those who are secretly converted to the faith of the Church of Ireland, when they get out of reach of that persecution—for I can call it by no other name—which awaits converts in that country, avow their principles and cease to belong to the Roman Catholic Church?

Now the two alleged facts—the religious reign of terror in Ireland, and the apostasy from Rome of numbers of Catholics when they reach America—are asserted by Mr. Hardy, not by us. We neither affirm nor contest them. Our concern is only with the strangely distorted conclusion which he draws from them. Retain the Established Church, he says; because, though it makes no converts, this is owing to the opposition of the priests; and the proof of this is that as soon as the Romish emigrants get to America, where there is no Established Church at all, they become Protestants directly. Surely the reasoning points to the very opposite inference. If your object is to get the better of Rome, and if (as you say) the Establishment fails in this and the voluntary system succeeds, try the latter.

And why should Mr. Hardy, not content with distorting argument, distort also Scripture to his purpose? He is "prepared to say" of Mr. Gladstone's partisans "what was said of the flowers of Saul when they elected him king: they followed him trembling." Now, what the Bible says is that the people followed Saul trembling, not when they elected him king, but after he had reigned over them two years, after he had brought them into great straits, when the Philistines were upon them, and when it was announced that his kingdom was not to continue and another was to be set up in his place. Possibly, if the men of Kent had remembered their Old Testament at the moment, they might have found in the narrative an application most inconveniently appropriate to some other leader than Mr. Gladstone.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

**LAMB AND FLAG RAGGED SCHOOLS.**—Mr. W. J. Watts, honorary secretary of the above-named schools, solicits aid in assisting the teachers to give a Christmas dinner to 200 poor children attending the classes. These schools have been established nearly a quarter of a century, and have been the means of doing much good.



## OBITUARY.

**THE MARQUIS OF HASTINGS.**—We have to record the death of a youthful nobleman of high rank and extensive property, of whom it may unfortunately be written with some truth that he was his own worst enemy. His connection with the turf was disastrous in its results; his health, which never was very strong, broke fairly down during the last few months; and his premature decease, which has for some days been expected, occurred early on Tuesday morning. Henry Weyford Plantagenet Rawdon Hastings, fourth Marquis of Hastings, Earl of Rawdon, and Viscount Loudoun, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom; Baron Rawdon, of Rawdon, in the county of York, in the Peerage of Great Britain; Baron Grey de Ruthyn, Hastings, Hungerford, Newmarch, Botreux, Molyns, and Meels, in the Peerage of England; Earl of Loudoun and Baron Campbell, of Loudoun, &c., in the Peerage of Scotland; Earl of Moira and Baron Rawdon, in the Peerage of Ireland; a Baronet of England, and one of the coheirs of the Barony of Montague, was one of the Peers who enjoyed the dignity of a coronet in each of the three kingdoms of England, Scotland, and Ireland; the others being the Duke of Abercorn and the Earl of Verulam. He was the younger son of George Augustus, second Marquis of Hastings (who died in 1814), by his wife, Barbara, in her own right Baroness Grey de Ruthyn, and was born in July, 1812, so that he had only recently completed the twenty-sixth year of his age. He succeeded to the other family honours and estates on the death of his elder brother, Paulyn Reginald, third Marquis, in January, 1851; and inherited his mother's Barony on her death, in 1858. He was educated at Eton, and also at Christ Church, Oxford; and, from the time that he attained his majority, was conspicuous among the leaders of the turf, in which capacity his career is but too well known to all our readers. He married, in July, 1861, the Lady Florence Cecilia Paget, youngest daughter of the Marquis of Anglesey; but by that marriage his Lordship has left no issue to succeed him. The family from which the Marquis sprung was named Rawdon, and they trace their descent to one Paulyn, or Paulinus, de Rawdon, to whom the Conqueror granted large estates in Yorkshire and the north of England, some of which have remained in the hands of his descendants, in an unbroken male line, down to the present day. One of the Rawdon family, who took an active part as a soldier in quelling the Irish Rebellion in the reign of King Charles I., was raised to a Baronetcy by Charles II., as Sir George Rawdon, of Moira, in the county of Down. His great-grandson attained the honours of the Irish Peerage a little more than a century since as Baron Rawdon and Earl of Moira, and marrying (as his third wife) Lady Elizabeth Hastings, eldest daughter of Theophilus, ninth Earl of Huntingdon, gained in consequence possession of a large portion of the estates which once belonged to that ancient and illustrious Euld. His son Francis, the second Earl of Moira, who assumed the additional name of Hastings, after his mother, is better known to history as the first Marquis of Hastings, a title conferred upon him in 1816. His name is remembered as a popular statesman, a gallant soldier, an eloquent member of the House of Peers, and also as having held for some years the exalted post of Governor-General of India. This nobleman (by his marriage with Flora, in her own right Countess of Loudoun) was grandfather of the Peer whose early decease it is our duty to record this day. By his Lordship's death the Marquisate and most of the other honours which he enjoyed become extinct, while some possibly will pass into abeyance between female heirs; but the Scottish Earldom of Loudoun devolves on his eldest sister, Lady Edith Maud, who is married to Charles Frederick Clifton, Esq., of Willesley, near Ashby-de-la-Zouche, Leicestershire, who has assumed the names of Abney-Hastings, and has issue. His Lordship's other sisters are Lady Bertha, married to Captain Clifton, son of Mr. T. Clifton, of Lytham Hall, Lancashire; Lady Victoria Maria Louisa, married to Mr. J. F. S. Kirwan, of Moyne, in the county of Galway; and Lady Frances Augusta Constance, who is the wife of Viscount Marsham, eldest son of the Earl of Romney.

**MR. WILLIAM HARRISON.**—Although the severe illness with which this once popular vocalist has been for some time afflicted could hardly have allowed his friends to cherish any hope of his immediate recovery, an announcement of the decease of one who has been so long prominently before the public will, doubtless, be generally received with as much surprise as sorrow. Mr. William Harrison died at his residence, Gainsford-street, Kentish Town, on Monday afternoon, in his fifty-fifth year. His last hours were soothed by the presence of his two sons, the Rev. William Harrison and Mr. Frank Harrison, and the inevitable issue of his malady was awaited by the sufferer with the greatest calmness and resignation. It may be mentioned that at the time Mr. Harrison expired, his mother, who had attained the advanced age of eighty-seven, was in the adjoining apartment momentarily expected to breathe her last. Those who remember how energetically Mr. Harrison strove for years to make English opera a permanent institution in the metropolis must have heard with great regret that those efforts had seriously affected his pecuniary position; and there can be no doubt that the disorder which has just proved fatal was much aggravated by the anxiety of mind consequent on his recent heavy losses. The high reputation he attained as a tenor is due entirely to his own unaided exertions and to the fine voice with which he was endowed. The favourable impression which he produced at one of the festivals of the Covent Garden Theatre Fund, where he assisted as a vocalist, after a brief period of study at the Royal Academy of Music, led to his being offered an engagement by Mr. Macready; and on May 2, 1839, he made a very successful début at Covent Garden Theatre as the hero of Koeko's opera, "Henrique; or, The Love Pilgrim." When "The Bohemian Girl" was produced in November, 1843, at Drury Lane, Mr. Harrison was the original Thaddeus; and the popularity which he imparted to Balfe's tuneful ballads, "The Fair Land of Poland" and "You'll Remember Me," must be even now fresh in the public recollection. As Adolphe, in Balfe's opera of "The Daughter of St. Mark," Bohemond, in Benedict's "Crusaders," and Don César de Bazan in Wallace's "Maritana," he advanced a reputation which was further strengthened by his success at the Princess's in Macfarren's opera of "Charles II." In August, 1854, Mr. Harrison, accompanied by Miss Louisa Pyne, left England for America, and, after a very prosperous tour through the States, they returned to this country with the intention of establishing a permanent English opera in the English capital. The Lyceum, originally intended for this purpose, was opened in September, 1857, under the Pyne and Harrison direction; and the success which accompanied the undertaking induced Mr. Harrison to become lessee of Covent Garden Theatre for the winter seasons extending from 1858 till 1862. Subsequently, he undertook the management of Her Majesty's Theatre for a similar purpose; but the enormous expenditure thus incurred was never repaid by the receipts, and these speculations ended in the total loss of a large fortune acquired by his industry and talents. His last professional engagement was at Drury Lane Theatre, where he appeared under Mr. Chatterton's management, as the substitute for Mr. Sims Reeves, in the musical drama of "Rob Roy." His increasing indisposition soon after forbade his continuing his professional exertions; and since the complimentary benefit which was given to him at Covent Garden last July, his illness rapidly assumed a more serious aspect. Without attaining the highest rank as an English tenor, Mr. William Harrison succeeded in acquiring a popularity which will render his death a source of sincere regret to the musical public.

**THE BERLIN ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES**, in a sitting held on the 11th inst., appointed Mr. William Wright, of London, corresponding member of the Philosophical Historical Section.

**THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION** IN DUBLIN has decided that Messrs. Sullivan and Piggott, two new-paper printers, who were sentenced to imprisonment for libel, were not disqualified from appearing on the benches lit through such conviction. Objection had been taken to them on the ground that they were civilly dead whilst in prison, but it was overruled by a majority of the Court.

## Literature.

**Strange Work.** A Novel. By THOMAS ARCHER, Author of "The Pauper, the Thief, and the Convict," &c. 3 volumes. London: Tinsley Brothers.

"Thus Celia said: so Clifford acted!" Mr. Thomas Carlyle, many years ago, actually believed that the young men and women of the period were seriously affected in their conduct through life by the ways and actions of the latest Celia and Clifford in the latest Minerva novel! There certainly was much sentimental nonsense inflicted on our immediate ancestors in their youth, and it is not too much to say that many of us are the immediate results of it—although, indeed, to describe the present generation as springing from the Minerva press would never dazzle Darwin nor humbug Huxley. And yet "Literature and Life," so often meditated together, are very "one and distinct;" and if the next generation should happen to be in any way influenced in tone by the really good modern fiction which eats itself into our hearts, we shall only have to regret that we had not the same advantages. To put a case, we think that there must be better suckling in, say, "Barchester Towers" than in the "Castle of Otranto," and that Colonel Newcome is a far finer character than the "Old English Baron." Mr. Archer's new story suggests this train of reflection, because he is so free from the vices that have been, and to some extent still are, prevalent in fiction. From the author of "The Pauper, the Thief, and the Convict," we can scarcely expect a sudden deviation into fashionable life, and a word here may settle the fate of the book in many minds. It treats of the middle class, the low, and the poor; and touches upon other classes who are sadly in want of the strong arm of either law or charity. But of high life there is nothing.

"Strange Work" means something which has become far too strange to many people. It means doing good and loving your neighbour as yourself; and these characteristics, personified in the young clergyman, Cyril Trent, are sufficiently attractive to take the reader, cheerful and interested, to the last page of the third volume. But the reader must understand that "Strange Work" is in no sense a religious novel. It is not even a moral novel, as compared with the "Heir of Redclyffe." It is plain and common-sense, and does its work without displaying any artificial machinery. Of course, to be doing anything good you must have something bad upon which to work; and accordingly, Mr. Archer displays a few characters as miserable sinners, and brings them fairly to proper and earnest ends. The mystery of Harriett Stone, whom the neighbours and the family believe to be unmarried, is cleared up in a way which is at once surprising and artistic; and if a little more had been told of the fortunes of her daughter, it would have been all the better. And the same must be said of the fortunes of the amusing members—good people, too—of the travelling circus, for they are lifelike and sufficiently novel. The hero, Cyril Trent, is of Mr. Kingsley's pattern. He is a person, but very unlike most persons. He has a talent for fighting, yet regrets having fought. And he saves some lives—and doesn't regret—in a manner that must certainly commend him to the Royal Humane Society. He gives discourses rather than sermons, and defeats people by beating them with their own weapons—puzzling them, just as Ogniben defeats and puzzles Chiappias in Mr. Browning's "Soul's Tragedy." Thus, the cobbler who lectures on equality, and would drag great people down, becomes sheepish when the person gets him into his study, over a pipe and a glass of ale. Good also is Cyril's love-making. It is very noble and earnest, but when he is repulsed, there is an end of it. To "knew not to obtain or die" was good enough for Lord Byron's Gaius; but Mr. Archer's Cyril tries the world in some other shape. And he gets his reward; for, ever since the days of Captain Jack Absolute, "Miss didn't know her own mind"—at least, until the drama is very nearly played out. We have alluded to one dangerously-edged tool with which Mr. Archer plays—the question of marriage with Harriett Stone. That is excellently cleared up; but the companion picture can scarcely be so well defended. Young Richard Wilding and Sophie Johnson come off a little too well—at least for some people's stern thinking—although they have bitterly suffered and bitterly repented. A very great authority has accused Tom Jones of getting off too easily, and Dick Wilding and his bride are by no means less free from blame. The incidents of the story are far too complicated to be discussed here; but the kind of interest and of character indicated will send readers to the book. Apart from those qualities, "Strange Work" has plenty of more than usually good writing, keen observation of social questions and requirements, and descriptions of scenery and society in suburban and country places which would be creditable to any of our foremost writers of fiction. In the author's next novel we should like to see a little more love-making; but in the mean time we sensibly pursue the policy attributed by Fielding to Jonathan Wild—"first secure what share you can, before you wrangle for the rest."

**Five Old Friends and a Young Prince.** By the Author of "The Story of Elizabeth." With Four Illustrations by Frederick Walker. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

It would be an idle shadow of the true etiquette of literature to pretend that the general reader was ignorant of the fact that the lady who writes this charming book is the daughter of the late Mr. Thackeray; and it is not a little interesting to trace in her works the peculiar order of genius which belonged to that great man, modified by womanly elements in the lady. It would be a task too long for these columns to point out and illustrate this in a variety of cases; but every reader must have been conscious from the first—we were going to say from the first sentence of "The Story of Elizabeth"—that Mr. Thackeray's own way of looking at life was not to depart with Mr. Thackeray. Perhaps his utter common-sense and refusal of all glamour is reproduced in a still stronger degree in his daughter. Then, there is the same knack—we hardly know how to phrase it—of letting the characters in a story do it all themselves, instead of posing, arranging, or interfering with them. It is well known that, when Mr. Thackeray was expostulated with for the turn the story took in "Esmond," he replied that he had had nothing to do with it—the characters had done it all themselves; and this trick of standing aloof from the action and yet coming forward every now and then to play chorus reappears with a singular subtlety of working in the daughter. We do not pretend to have analysed it, but we venture to indicate it.

These tales have, with (we believe) only one exception, already appeared in the *Cornhill Magazine*; but they look scarcely like the same things in their new dress, with large, beautiful type and a handsome binding; and we are quite certain that no buyer of books will regret purchasing this volume, whether to keep or to give away. Those who have read "Jack the Giant-Killer," "Cinderella," and the rest, in the magazine as they appeared, do not need to have the conception upon which the author works stated to them. We think she has worked that conception—the intrinsic reality of the fairy tale—with great success, especially in one particular, that, namely, of shunning to interfere by any side-lights of realism with the proper glamour of the old friends in the old shape: we mean that nobody will read "Cinderella" with any less zest for having read Miss Thackeray's version. If the book had not this merit we should not think of saying, as we do, that it is one of the most delightful volumes we ever saw, and, being beautifully bound (with a most ingenious device on the front cover), is excellently adapted for a gift-book.

This brief notice would be shamefully incomplete if we omitted to remark upon the peculiar beauty of the descriptions of scenery with which the stories abound. They are never obtruded, and never over-done; and it is remarkable, too, that in them also there is a total absence of glamour.

## TWO LADIES' NOVELS.

**Contrast; or, the Schoolfellows.** By HOLME LEE. Author of "Sylvan Holt's Daughter," &c. London: Smith, Elder, and Co. **A Story of Two Cousins.** By LADY EMILY PONSOMBY. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

Here are two stories which have at least two qualities in common: each is written by a lady, and each is condensed into one volume. A century ago Richardson, Fielding, and Smollett thought nothing of eight volumes for a novel, and some works of Thackeray and Dickens, printed in three-volume style, would certainly make six. But it is necessary to consider the style of the book and the capacity of the writer; and we are quite sure that Holme Lee and Lady Emily Ponsomby would shrink from entering the lists against such literary giants as those named above. Their stories have not sufficient strength of incident or knowledge of the world to run for any great length; and therefore much, as it were, is omitted, or, say, a skip is made to the next stepping-stone, without any attempt to wade through the waters between. Thus, in these stories, when the hero joins the army, we hear no more of him until he gets leave from his regiment; but Thackeray would irresistibly have taken his readers into the mess-room and the campaign. The result of these nicely-written short tales is that they can be read with pleasure at one sitting, instead of being yawned through in two, for a yawn might happen if ladies wrote camp and barrack life for ladies.

"Contrast; or, the Schoolfellows," is quite of the "Holme Lee" class. Miss Harriet Parr deals with middle-class people in the country, but gives them an occasional taste of the metropolis. The schoolfellows may be understood as a mixture of little boys and girls at a dame's school near a seaport town in the north. Despite those accidents which separate us so much in life, many of them come together in later years; and their fortunes form a story which is pleasing, good, and instructive. Little George Marsden is a sturdy youngster, who would certainly make his way in the world despite his father being merely a stonemason, and even had he no such uncle as Sir George Clouston, the great and wealthy engineering contractor. He is contrasted favourably with John Froude, a young gentleman who grows up into an ascetic person whom nobody can manage, and who becomes a Romanist on his deathbed. There is a love rivalry between these two which is managed very amiably on their part and charmingly on that of Miss Parr, who does not deal in jealousy and revenge, but keeps her characters gentlemanly to the last. As for the object of their choice, Rose Gold, she is a sweet little unphilosophical nonentity who must be beloved by all. She is a trifle unsubstantial, but preferable to two other girls who are of the hard and determined class, with scarcely a ghost's chance of a husband. Former writings of Holme Lee will prepare the reader for good persons, old farmers, and country scandal-mongers, who are no more new than to-day seems after yesterday, but they are just as welcome. Besides the honest interest of the story, there are many capital passages in which social matters are discussed; whilst the story of the cholera of 1819 (or whichever cholera is intended), the fortunes of the great contractor, and the sudden springing up of the new town on waste land, seem seriously real, yet thoroughly parts of good fiction.

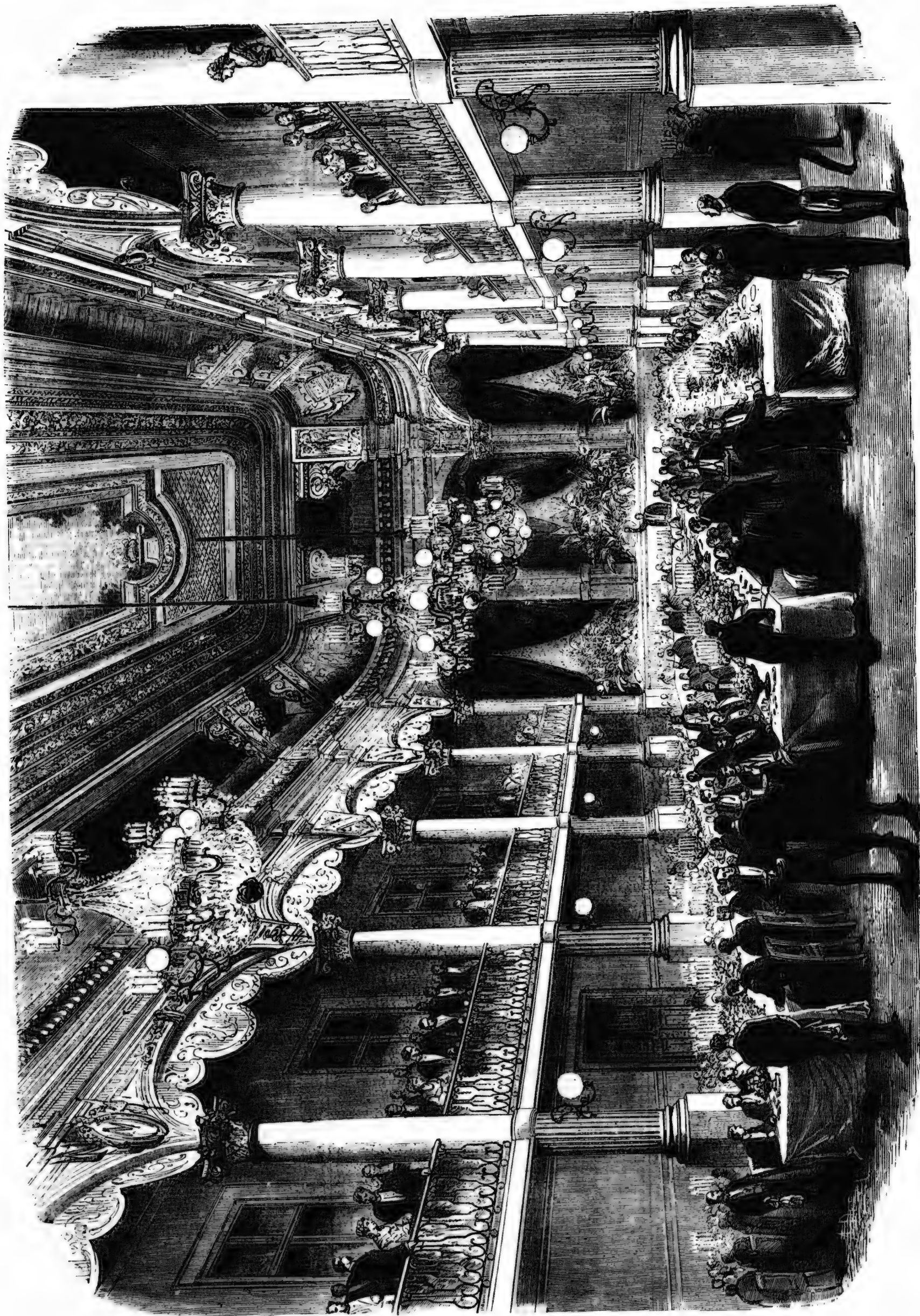
Lady Emily Ponsomby indulges in society of a different stamp; for, although in "A Story of Two Cousins" the two cousins, Godfrey and Tristram Vere, are respectively the sons of a lawyer and somebody connected with the Bank, they are in good society almost before the reader can look round. It is good society—the fashionable world all throughout. The old bachelor uncle of the young gentlemen comes from India with something like countless wealth, and everybody is great with excitement as to which of them will inherit it. (Nobody seems to think it possible that the old gentleman may divide it fairly.) The young gentlemen go to Eton, and so fall in with the family of Lord Dorner. They, now about eighteen, visit that nobleman's son, Alaric, at his palace at Avonsville, and immediately fall in love with the daughter, Beatrice, aged fifteen. Being a confirmed woman of the world, she, after a fair time, falls in something like love with both; and the expectation becomes fast and furious as to how the uncle's money will go. Beatrice will certainly go with it. Without following the fortunes of the two cousins, it is enough to say that the uncle dies intestate, and Godfrey is heir-at-law. Godfrey proposes and is accepted, and Tristram exchanges into a Canadian regiment. However, about one hour before the marriage, Godfrey finds his uncle's will—a handsome legacy to himself, but everything beside to Tristram. After some agony, Godfrey marries Beatrice all the same, and soon develops into something like confirmed melancholy; and in a year, after a little boy has been born, he incloses the will to his cousin, and disappears, after the manner of the Rev. Mr. Speke. Tristram burns the will, and finds out his cousin just as he is dying; and how the story ends is more than we can say, because Lady Emily Ponsomby does not tell us. The book is fashionable melodrama relieved by some good characters—especially the parents of the two cousins—who need not be described here. It will at least form excellent food for the circulating libraries.

**MONUMENT TO THE LATE ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES NAPIER.**—The ceremony of unveiling this relief monument, which fills one of the niches in St. Paul's Cathedral near the north entrance, was performed on Friday week. The expense of this monument was defrayed by a few friends and companions in arms of the late Admiral. It is of white marble, and upon flags are the names of most of his battles. In the centre is the head in high relief, surrounded by a wreath of laurel and oak; in the background is the ship Wellington, gun-boats, and a fortress blown up; beneath is the simple inscription, "Charles Napier, M.P., Admiral, Count Napier St. Vincent, born 1780, died 1860." The work is designed and executed by George G. Adams, sculptor, who has now five monuments in the cathedral—two being colossal statues of the Admiral's cousins, Generals Sir Charles J. and Sir William Napier.

**THE "MARSEILLAISE" IN PARIS.**—The Correctional Tribunal has just been engaged trying six young men accused of uttering seditious cries and resisting the police. The first part of the offence consisted in singing the "Marseillaise" in the streets about midnight, and persisting in doing so after having been warned to desist. The police agents, finding the young men refractory, proceeded to arrest the most noisy, when the others attempted a rescue. The public prosecutor remarked that the air in question had been sometimes considered a patriotic one and sometimes revolutionary; he left the Court to decide under what category it should be classified in the present case. The Tribunal decided that on this occasion the air had no seditious character, and acquitted the prisoners on that head, but on the other part of the accusation five of them were convicted and sentenced to a fortnight's imprisonment, while the sixth was set at liberty.

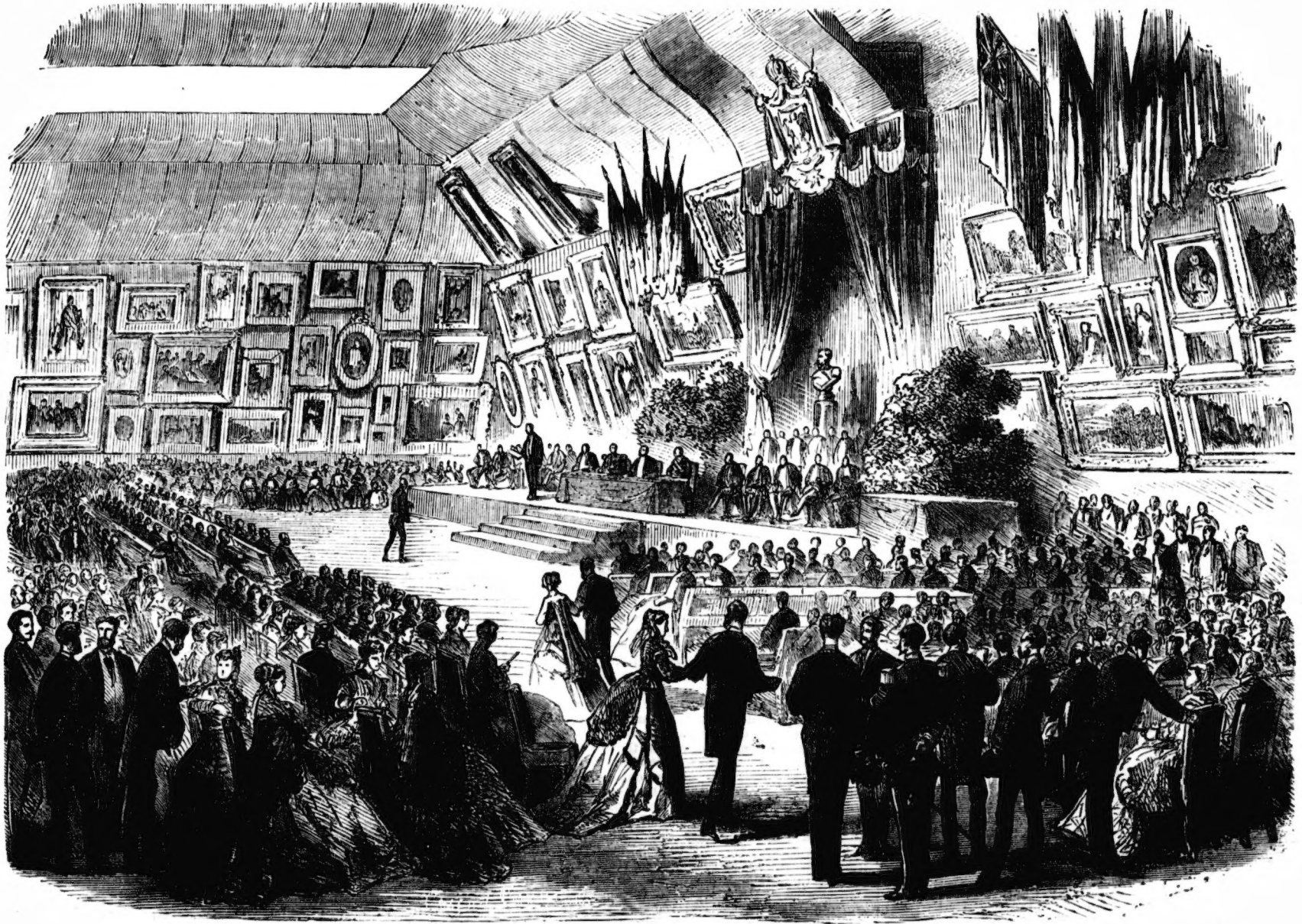
**PARISIAN JOURNALISM.**—Parisian journalists do not improve in courtesy towards each other. The editor of a weekly pamphlet, called *Le Cloche*, founded in imitation of the *Lancet*, lately insinuated that the *Pays*, which has been newly organised, is kept up out of the secret-service money—"The money which does not come out of the public treasury can only come out of the public funds. Now, I am not a man who is so devoted to his country as to proclaim their dependence." Thereupon, the editor of the *Pays* replies:—"There are people with whom nobody discusses, but who are merely chastised. For example, the editor of the *Cloche*, is of the number. This man whom we all know, who exhibits himself comfortably in his fauteuil on the first representation of pieces in the theatres, is one of the most repugnant members of the press. He exhibits in his greasy person at once the wretched unlicker's man, the wretched doctor, the wretched advocate, and the wretched Jesuit. This periodical and weekly abscess comes out every Saturday, in the *Cloche*; and, what is unheard of for an abscess, though pained remains not the less swollen and tumefied. He wished to take the place of Rochefort. But those who employ a lantern and a croak at night, and creep along the walls, are not Rocheforts. He carries on opposition as another sells groceries, because it is profitable, but without conviction, ardour, or enthusiasm. It is all a matter of traffic; so much the heap, and thirteen makes the dozen! It is a mere mercantile opposition—a retail trade—an opposition that makes money and speculates on 'Liberty,' 'equality, and fraternity'; an opposition which defiles the theatre, and, away, or be aware of the fact! The actor Garrick said to a friend, 'I am of enormous bulk—more enormous even than the statue of Hercules. You are so fat that nobody can beat you in a race.' 'Ah, Hercules was sent return to you.' For example, which is merely the *mon deplorable état* of the *Cloche* will probably report on M. de Cassagnac in his next number. Such are the amenities of Parisian journalism in 1863."





C. SING OF THE HAVEN EXHIBITION: THE GRAND BANQUET.





DISTRIBUTING THE AWARDS AT THE CLOSING OF THE HAVRE EXHIBITION.



THE LATE INUNDATIONS IN SWITZERLAND: MEMBERS OF THE RELIEF COMMITTEE RECEIVING DONATIONS FOR THE SUFFERERS.



## CLOSE OF THE HAVRE EXHIBITION.

PERHAPS it is not too much to say that the habits, manners, and customs of the French people have positively changed since Napoleon III. came to the throne. They have certainly become more commercial, more speculative, and French people travel more than they did in the days of Louis Philippe. They are learning geography and beginning to learn foreign languages; they have taken to horse-racing and yachting, and have introduced a number of English words into the French language. There have been two great universal exhibitions during the present reign; several exhibitions of the fine arts, agricultural exhibitions, cattle shows, and exhibitions of farm produce, poultry, cheese, and butter; and there have also been exhibitions of dogs. We are reminded of all these progressive indications and useful gatherings by the close of the Maritime Exhibition at Havre, which took place on Monday, Oct. 26, in the presence of his Excellency M. Forcade la Roquette, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and the local officials. Since June 1, Havre has attracted many thousands of visitors, some for business and most for pleasure, who have passed a few days pleasantly at the seaside, employing their time in a garden containing many quaint constructions for the accommodation of models of maritime inventions; endless objects connected with seafaring life; a most comprehensive marine store, with living fish and pickled fish; besides articles of dress and luxury—in fact, many things belonging to the land and of the land. The Maritime Exhibition was an exhibition of everything, including bull-fights. Perhaps its success was not so great as it deserved; the Emperor never went near it, the excursion trains were never crowded, and fewer people went from England than was anticipated. Universal exhibitions have lost some of their attractions for the public. They say in Paris that "we shall have no more universal exhibitions during the present reign." At the closing ceremony the Minister of Agriculture delivered an address, in which he complimented the city of Havre and the exhibitors on their energy, industry, and inventive talent, mentioning more particularly those of England, Belgium, Holland, and America. The Minister observed—"England occupies an important place in this exhibition. She has sent you the models of her ships, her fishing-tackle, the most perfect examples of her industry; like you, she seeks further progress in these useful rivalries." Again—"Speaking only of commercial results originating in a greater intimacy between France and England. At the period of the July Government, the exports and imports of the two great nations amounted to 200 millions of francs per annum. Since the establishment of the empire so great has been the progress that in 1866 the trade of the two countries reached to the enormous figures of one milliard 800 millions of francs." This is a graceful tribute to the workings of reduced customs duties and new commercial treaties, for which we must thank Napoleon III. and not the wisdom of the French Chambers. The Minister reminds us of the great advantages growing out of these international exhibitions, both political and commercial; reminds us, in fact, of what has been said before on similar occasions, but not the less useful to repeat.

The following is a list of the awards to British exhibitors:—

Class 1.—Diplôme d'Honneur: Napier and Sons, Glasgow, models of vessels. Silver Medals: Palmer's Shipbuilding Company, models of vessels; London Engineering and Shipbuilding Company, models of vessels; George Robinson and Co., Cork, models of vessels; Henderson, Conburn, and Co., Renfrew, models of vessels; Birnie and Co., Montrose, models of vessels; Captain H. Lamley, London, patent articulated rudder. Bronze Medals: T. Wishart, Large models of vessels; S. and H. Morton, Leth, ship's cradle; J. M. Kilner, Chester, auxiliary propeller. Honourable Mention: Hamilton's Windsor Ironworks, Liverpool, iron boats.

Class 3.—Gold Medal: C. Martin, Newcastle, anchors. Silver Medals: Scott, Liverpool, wire rope; T. P. Jones, Dudley, chains; Hawks, Crawshaw, and Co., Newcastle, chains and chain cables. Bronze Medals: Pencock and Buchan, Southampton, paint; J. Bethell and Co., London, crescenting wood; Pow and Fawcett, North Shields, chains; Skinner's steering apparatus, London; Emerson, Walker, and Co., London, capstan; H. P. Parkes, Tipiton, chains; F. Glover, London, anchor slip. Honourable Mentions: Reed, Louch, and Co., London, cordage; R. T. Dun, Glasgow, ship's medicine chest.

Class 4.—Diplôme d'Honneur: Parkinson and Frodsham, London, chronometers. Gold Medal: V. Kullberg, London, chronometers. Silver Medals: Captain Albini, London, registering compass; F. N. Glesborne, London, mechanical telegraph signals; McGregor and Co., Glasgow, compasses; Reid and Sons, Newcastle, chronometer-makers. Bronze Medals: G. Hornsey, Southampton, ship's mechanical telegraph; J. S. Glesborne and Co., Liverpool, improvements in Morse's telegraph; A. and M. Weir, London, pneumatic telegraph; J. Levi and Co., London, optical and nautical instruments. Honourable Mention: W. Welchert, Cardiff, chronometers.

Class 5.—Diplôme d'Honneur: Frank Buckland, London, pisciculture. Silver Medals: W. Housell and Co., Bridport, fishing-nets; Kirby, Beard, and Co., London, fish-hooks. Bronze Medals: Allen and Gragg, Lowestoft, nets; Wadkin and King, Manchester, thread for nets.

Class 6.—Gold Medal: Board of Trade, London, rocket apparatus for the saving of life from shipwreck. Silver Medal: G. Peacock, Starcross, life-saving mattress. Honourable Mention: Donaldson, Newcastle, life-boat, &c.

Class 7.—Food Products, &c.—Gold Medal: George Borwick, baking-powder. Silver Medals: Glen Cove Company, maizena; Huntley and Palmer, biscuits; Orlando Jones and Co., starch; Peek, Frean and Co., biscuits; Kidd and Hunter, Glasgow, preserved provisions; J. T. Morton, London, preserved provisions; Australian Meat Company, London. Bronze Medals: Amey, concentrated milk; Forbes, London, preserved provisions; Bollman, Condy, and Co., London, vinegar; Hay and Co., Glasgow, whisky; W. J. Coleman and Co., London, extract of meat, mustard, &c. Honourable Mention: Marshall and Co., Aberdeen, preserved provisions.

Class 8.—Silver Medal: Phillips, London, Royal Albert medal; Napoleon Price and Co., London, perfume. Bronze Medals: Waldemar, Lund, and Co., London, jewellery; Letheford, London, perfume.

Class 9.—Silver Medal: Spiers and Son, Oxford, cyclopan washstands. Class 10, Section 1.—Reilly and Co., London, guns. Section 2.—Bronze Medal: E. Wilks, Cheltenham, portmanteaus.

Class 11, Section 2.—Silver Medals: F. C. Calvert and Co., Manchester, phenic acid; H. Bollman, Condy, London, disinfectants, &c.

Class 12, Section 2.—Diplôme d'Honneur: Barrow Haematite Iron Company, Barrow-on-Furness; J. Russell and Sons, Wednesbury, tubes. Silver Medals: Patent Plombers, Crucible Company, London, crucibles; J. Byers and Sons, Stockton-on-Tees, lead. Sections 2 and 3.—Gold Medal: Schmidt, Liverpool, road locomotive. Silver Medals: J. and H. Gwynne and Co., London, centrifugal pumps; James, Son, and Co., Liverpool, Adair's patent pumps; Charles Powis and Co., London; B. Massey and Co., Manchester, steam-hammer. Bronze Medals: A. Wilson and Co., Vauxhall, patent injectors; Shuttleworth and Kerman, Shoreham, pump. Section 5.—Metal: S. Chatwood, Bolton, safes. Section 6.—Silver Medals: Elias Howe, sewing-machines; A. B. Howe, sewing-machines. Bronze Medals: Wilcox and Gibbs, sewing-machines; G. Townsend, Redditch, needles, &c. Honourable Mention: Woodfield and Sons, Redditch, needles, hooks, &c. Section 8.—Silver Medals: Silicated Carbon Filter Company, Battersea, London, filters; Dows, Clark, and Van Winkle, London, soda cream apparatus. Bronze Medal: London Water Purifying Company, filters.

Section 9.—Metal: James Gibbs and Co., London, manures. Section 10.—Gold Medals: Price's Patent Candle Company, London; F. C. Calvert and Co., Manchester, preparations of phenic acid; Sir W. A. Rose and Co., London, railway grease, &c.; J. C. and J. Field, London, candles and paraffine. Silver Medals: H. Stephens, London, wood stains; Universal Paint Company, London. Bronze Medals: British Seaweed Company, Glasgow; J. Webster and Co., Birmingham, zinc paint; McDougall Brothers, London, disinfecting soap, &c.; George Borwick, knife powder. Honourable Mention: J. M. Innes, Liverpool, metallic paint.

Section 11.—Bronze Medal: Engert and Rolfe, London, felt. Section 12.—Diplôme d'Honneur: Wynn and Co., Cardiff. Gold Medals: Marly Hill Coke; John Brodgen and Sons, Cardiff, coals. Silver Medals: Bwila Colliery, Cardiff; Bedlington Coal Company (Davidson's West Hartley), Newcastle; Cowpen and North Sension Coal Company (Cowpen's Hartley), Newcastle; Seaton Delaval Coal Company (Hastings's Hartley), Newcastle; W. Baird and Co., Glasgow. Bronze Medals: Hirwain Coal and Iron Company, Cardiff; Coedcae Coal Company, Cardiff; Llynvi Coal and Iron Company, Cardiff.

Class 13.—Gold Medals: Johnson and Co., London, Portland cement; Francis and Sons, London, Portland cement. Bronze Medal: Anderson and Son, Belfast, roofing felt.

Class 14.—Roberts and Son, Bridgwater, carriages. Class 15.—Gold Medal: Hinks, Wells, and Co., Birmingham, steel pens. Silver Medal: Reed and Fox, London, printing types. Honourable Mention: Green, London, gelatine.

Class 16.—Diplôme d'Honneur: Daniel and Co., London, colonial produce.

## INUNDATIONS IN SWITZERLAND.

THE past autumn has been, unhappily, distinguished in many parts of the world for those catastrophes against which human skill and foresight are of little avail, since, both from the sudden-

ness and the magnitude of the calamity, all preventive efforts are useless, and the only course to be adopted is to alleviate the distress caused by the terrible convulsions of nature by which the people dwelling in those districts have so severely suffered.

In Switzerland, where the floods have done immense damage, the inhabitants are in such pressing need of help that it will be long before they recover their previous position. Eighteen millions of francs will not be sufficient to replace the property destroyed; while the condition of the people who are suffering from the sickness which has resulted from the catastrophe, the poor who are unable to support their families now the price of food has greatly increased, and the artisans whose trades are at a standstill in consequence of the general distress and destruction, is so wretched as to demand our utmost sympathy.

Throughout the country, however, subscriptions have been raised for the benefit of the sufferers, and house-to-house collections have been organised by the municipal councils, while a touching appeal is made by the general council of the public to the Swiss who are dispersed in all quarters of the globe to aid their unfortunate countrymen in their great need. In Bavaria, Wirtemberg, and Baden collections have also been made; the King of Prussia has sent 20,000fr. by his Ambassador; and, besides the assistance rendered by General Roder, the intendant of the château of Arenenberg, the Emperor of the French has also sent 20,000fr. as his subscription.

The courage of the poor people is fast returning with this display of sympathy, and they have set about repairing the effects of the disaster with a more hearty and hopeful determination than they could display during the first realisation of the calamity.

At Basle the operations of charitable assistance are assiduously carried on, and the committee for the relief of the sufferers may be said to be always sitting to receive the contributions of those who send gifts of whatever sort, whether food, clothing, money, or domestic comforts. The room where these welcome presents are received is always in a bustle of benevolent business, and our illustration represents the scene at this singular emporium, where at the crowded counters the customers, more eager to give than people mostly are to buy or to sell, endeavour to keep alive interest in the good cause that has hitherto been most willingly supported in that ancient city.

## THE OPERA.

THE first appearance of Mlle. Irma de Murska at the Royal Italian Opera, postponed from day to day, at last took place on Monday, when this graceful and impassioned singer undertook the part of the heroine in "Lucia di Lammermoor." Mlle. de Murska has improved in many respects since her first visit to this country, two years ago. She looks better (though, by-the-way, she was reported, the night of her debut, to be in bad health, and was formally apologised for), her voice is fuller and more powerful, while she acts with all the fire which characterised her performance when she was first introduced to the London public. Her great success was achieved in the finale to the second act, when Edgardo returns to find that Lucia has just been married to his rival, the feeble Ashton. Her mad scene was, in conception, equally fine, though its effect was in some slight degree marred by the fatigue which Mlle. de Murska's previous exertion had caused her. No wonder she was exhausted; for, notwithstanding the announcement of her indisposition, the public had insisted upon hearing the whole of the opening movement of the finale a second time. Mongini and Santley were admirable as Edgardo and Ashton.

A contemporary points out that the story of "La Périhole," M. Offenbach's most recent production, stripped of its accessories and reduced to its simplest elements, is the story of "La Grande Duchesse" with the relations between the two principal characters inverted. In "La Grande Duchesse" the awkward effects of favouritism on the part of female rulers were exhibited; in "La Périhole" we are shown the sort of scrape into which a male ruler may be led by a similar weakness. The Grand Duchess of Gerolstein allowed herself to become enamoured of a common soldier; the Spanish Viceroy of Lima permits himself to fall in love with a street-singer—a poor, hungry little girl known as La Périhole, who cares no more for him than Fritz did for the Grand Duchess, and who remains faithful through everything to her lover, Piquillo, as Fritz remained faithful to Wanda, his betrothed. The plot of the new operetta belongs to the ingenious authors of "La Grande Duchesse," MM. Meilhac and Halévy. The character of La Périhole, who leaves her lover because she is so hungry, and longs to return to him as soon as she has dined, may be said to belong to the author of "Manon Lescaut," who would scarcely, however, have cared to claim this vulgarised copy of his charming creation. For La Périhole, considered as a person more or less historical, the authors are indebted to M. Prosper Mérimée, who makes La Périhole the heroine of one of the dramas contained in the volume attributed to M. Mérimée's imaginary dramatist, Clara Guzmán. In the "Théâtre du Saint Sacrement," which turns upon the sudden conversion to grace of a celebrated actress known in Lima as La Périhole, who, riding in the carriage of the Spanish Viceroy, meets some priests carrying the viaticum on foot to a dying man, and thereupon gets out and places the carriage at their service. This Périhole, then, has but little in common with the Périhole impersonated at the Variétés by Mlle. Schneider. The Périhole of Les Variétés leads the precarious life of a street-singer, and, being found sleeping in the street by the Viceroy—a sort of Haroun al Raschid who wanders about the city of Lima in quest of adventures—is carried off to the Viceroyal palace, where much jewellery awaits her. She accepts the jewellery, but will not respond to the Viceroy's protestations of affection. The Viceroy discovers that he has made a mistake; and in the end La Périhole is restored to Piquillo. The two favourite pieces in the work are a sentimental air which La Périhole addresses to her lover when, forced by hunger, she quits him temporarily, and for the sake of a good dinner; and a comic trio, "Les femmes! les femmes!" which is said to be very effective, but slightly vulgar.

BRIGHAM YOUNG, it is said, is going to retire to private life with the prophets—that is, 3,000,000 dollars.

TRADE UNIONS AND ARBITRATION.—A crowded meeting of delegates from most of the metropolitan trade societies was held at the Bell Inn, Old Bailey, on Saturday night, to consider what steps should be taken to forward the adoption of arbitration in trade disputes. Mr. Allen (Amalgamated Engineers) took the chair, and said it was necessary something should be done to impress upon members of Parliament the desirability of promoting a system of arbitration applicable to trade disputes—a system that all trade unionists, as far as he knew, were in favour of. Mr. Dunning (bookbinders) said that, after a great many years' experience of strikes and lock-outs, he was convinced they had failed in their object, and that conciliation and arbitration boards ought to be established as speedily as possible. He would go beyond Mr. Mundella in this matter, and make the decisions of those boards compulsory. He begged to move—"That this meeting of trade societies' representatives approves of the principle of arbitration, in the belief that it is the best method of settling disputes between employers and the employed, and recommends that trade committees, in their various localities, seek to bring about meetings of masters and men, with the view of establishing boards of conciliation and arbitration; and this meeting feels deeply indebted to Mr. Mundella for the successful efforts he has made to establish such boards." Mr. W. Hammett (City Ladies' Shoemakers' Society) seconded the resolution. Mr. Odger, secretary to the London Trades Council, said the trades of London had adopted the principles of arbitration some years ago, but the question now was, how best they could carry it into operation. Some weeks since, having had some business with the Lord Mayor elect (Mr. Alderman J. G. Lawrence), he mentioned the subject to the worthy Alderman, who said that he should be happy, at the commencement of the new year, to attend a conference of masters and men for the mutual consideration of the subject. Mr. Mundella had also promised to attend the conference, which, no doubt, would be the most important held for many years in this country. Mr. Lloyd Jones thought the great thing that these boards would accomplish was to lead the masters to a consideration of the men's side of the question, and the men to a consideration of that of the masters. He believed the establishment of these boards would be beneficial, not alone to the working classes, but to all classes generally. The resolution was carried unanimously.

## KILLED BY A METEOR.

WHEN we are told that seven millions and a half of meteorites, large enough to be visible at night, fall into our atmosphere in every twenty-four hours, and that ninety-nine out of every hundred of these never pass away again beyond its confines, the question naturally suggests itself, "How far are we safe from the effects of so tremendous a bombardment?" Granted that the major part of these missiles weigh but a few pounds; yet, even so, we seem, at first sight, to be but inefficiently protected. Four-pounder guns, for example, have ere this worked serious mischief in battles and sieges. Nor will astronomers even allow us the comfort of supposing that but few of the heavier missiles from outer space are hurled against our planet. On the contrary, we are told—and there is no reason for disputing the announcement—that many hundreds of the larger sort of aerolites fall in a single day into our atmosphere. The heaviest missiles made use of on board our ironclads or in our most powerfully armed forts are mere feathers compared to some of the aerolites which are thus hurled at us. There is now in the British Museum the fragment of one of these aerolites, and this fragment weighs nearly six tons.

Against so tremendous a bombardment as we are thus exposed to, what protection have we? Those who arm our ships with five or six inches, or more, of solid iron, what would they do if those ships had to be exposed to the flight of missiles weighing several tons? And our earth is not even armed with a one-inch coat of iron. She sweeps onwards through space, the continual aim of a flight of bodies of all weights, from a few grains or ounces to several tons, impinging upon her with velocities which range up to upwards of forty miles in a single second, and yet she seems absolutely without defence of any sort.

The earth is, however, so well defended that none but the largest aerolites reach her surface, and even these are burst into a thousand fragments while penetrating the earth's defensive armour. What, then, is that armour? Those who are loading our forts and ships with defensive armour have made use of one of the strongest and most unyielding of all the substances known to men. The earth, on the other hand, is protected by a substance which is the symbol of all that is soft and unresisting:

The firmament, expanse of liquid, pure,  
Transparent, elemental air, diffused  
In circuit to the uttermost convex  
Of this great round.

And yet the soft air is for us a "partition firm and sure" from the dangers which surround us, and one might almost imagine that Milton had foreseen the discoveries of modern science when he so described the firmament, and spoke of

the loud murmur  
Of Chaos far removed, lest fierce extremes  
Contiguous might distemper the whole frame.

Be this as it may, it is certain that the inhabitants of the earth run small risk of being injured by the bodies which come from out the interplanetary spaces. It is doubtful whether a single death since the race of man peopled our globe can be ascribed to this cause; though some will have it that the old fable which refers the death of Æschylus to the fall of a tortoise dropped on his head by an eagle, may be looked upon as the distorted account of the poet's death by the fall of a meteoric body. Many instances have been recorded in which men have escaped very narrowly from falling aerolites. For example, on Oct. 1, a remarkable shower of aerolites fell in the department of Yonne; and Baron Seguer relates that, a few leagues from Hauteville, a mason was nearly struck by one of the fragments. The piece, which was found buried deep in the earth near the foot of the mason's ladder, is now preserved in the museum of the Academy of Sciences, to which it was presented by Baron Seguer.

A narrative has just been circulated, under the heading "Killed by a Meteor," in which the death of a seaman on board the schooner Urania is ascribed to the fall of "a meteor resembling a ball of fire," and we have seen this narrative referred to in terms which show that the unfortunate man is supposed by many to have been killed by the explosion of a true aerolite. "A seaman, named H. G. Sales," says the original narrative, "was steering, and at 12.30 a.m. on Tuesday, the 18th, a meteor, like a ball of fire, fell immediately over the vessel's stern, and exploded with a loud report resembling that of a heavy piece of ordnance. Sparks of fire were scattered all about the decks, and the steersman was killed by the shock." "The fire-ball," adds the account, "apparently travelled with the wind, which was from the south-west, and when it burst the flash was so intensely brilliant that the steward, who was lying in his berth below, declared that he saw the fire through the seams of the deck."

In reality, however, the meteor which caused the poor fellow's death was not in any way connected with the class of objects to which shooting-stars, aerolites, bolides, and fire-balls belong. In fact, the word meteor, though etymologically applicable to the object seen by the crew of the Urania, has become so thoroughly identified with shooting-stars and aerolites that it can hardly be properly made use of in describing the phenomenon. Sales met his death from lightning—but the lightning belonged to neither of the forms (forked and sheet) with which we are most familiar, but to the form denominated by Arago "globe lightning." In preparing a notice on the subject of lightning for the "Annuaire" of the "Bureau des Longitudes," in 1837, he was led to notice, as a distinct class, lightnings or thunderbolts of a globular form, and also remarkable for the slowness of their movements. At that time he could cite but a small number of well-authenticated facts, but a few years later, when attention had been drawn to the subject and inquiries prosecuted, "he was only embarrassed," he says, "by the difficulty of selection amongst the numerous accounts which he had received."

Lightnings of the globular kind are often visible for several seconds; they move in a strange undulating manner; often appearing to avoid objects with which their course would, if unchanged, have brought them into contact; and at other times seeming to leave their course through the attraction of objects lying near it. They have even been known to rebound (in appearance) from the earth, to separate into several small globes, and to exhibit other singular phenomena. Several instances of the effects of globe lightning resemble very closely those which are ascribed to the object which exploded near the Urania. Thus, Arago records that on July 13, 1798, the East India Company's ship the Good Hope, being in 35 deg. 40 min. S. latitude, and 44 deg. 20 min. E. longitude, "was struck by lightning of a globular form, which produced a most violent detonation, killed a sailor instantaneously, and seriously wounded another;" and many similar instances might be cited.

No satisfactory explanation of the singular phenomenon of globe lightning has yet been offered, though probably the account of the matter given by Sir John Herschel in his Treatise on Meteorology is very near the truth. He assimilates the phenomenon to certain appearances which attend the discharge of electricity under particular circumstances artificially brought about. It must not, however, be supposed that any doubt whatever rests on the strictly electrical nature of such events as the one by which the seaman Sales has lately met his death. Everything in the appearance, as well as in the movements, of globe lightnings distinguishes them clearly from aerolites and shooting-stars. And, besides, it is well known that luminous electrical globes are a common attendant on volcanic eruptions. Sir William Hamilton relates that he and others repeatedly saw such globes during the eruption of Vesuvius in 1779. They issued from the thick cloud of ashes which overhung the volcano, and many of them were of considerable magnitude. "They burst in the air like the fireworks which are filled with what are called 'serpents.'" Similar appearances were observed, also, during the eruption of 1791.—*Daily News*.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT is to be used for a new lighthouse at Brindisi, in the Adriatic. This is the first experiment of the kind made in Italy.



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